GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH SUDAN

MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FOOD SECURITY♩

PRODUCTIVE SAFETY NET FOR SOCIOECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES PROJECT (SNSOP)

SOCIAL ASSESSMENT (SA)

March 2023

JUBA, SOUTH SUDAN

Table of Contents

ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

AC	Appeals Committee
BDC	Boma Development Committee
CSTs	Community Supervision Teams
ESMP	Environmental and Social Management Plan
ESMF	Environmental and Social Management Framework
ESCP	Environmental and Social Commitment Plan
ESS	Environmental and Social Standards
FGDs	Focus Group Discussions
GBV	Gender Based Violence
GRM	Grievance Redress Mechanism
GRSS	Government of the Republic of South Sudan
HIV	Human Immuno-deficiency Virus
IP	Implementing Partner
LMP	Labour Management Procedures
MAFS	Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security
M & E	Monitoring and Evaluation
NGOs	Non-Governmental Organisations
OHS	Occupational Health and Safety
PCG	People and Change Group
PCU	Project Coordination Unit
PIU	Project Implementation Unit
PSU	Project Support Unit
PPE	Personal Protective Equipment
PSA	Personal Services Agreement

PSEA	Protection against Sexual Exploitation and Abuse
SEA	Sexual Exploitation and Abuse
SH	Sexual Harassment
SOP	Standard Operating Procedure
SWP	Safe Working Procedures
TOR	Terms of Reference
UNOPS	The United Nations Office for Project Services

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This Social Assessment has been prepared to guide the implementation of the South Sudan Productive Safety Net for Socioeconomic Opportunities Project (SNSOP), financed through a grant by the World Bank, and implemented by the Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security (MAFS).

SNSOP aims to provide cash transfers and access to income generating opportunities and strengthen the National Safety Net Delivery System. Provision of access to income generating opportunities will focus on investments in income generating activities (IGAs) to strengthen livelihoods opportunities for improved economic welfare.

Key objectives of the Social Assessment are to understand the characteristics of different project beneficiaries, determine social impacts of the project activities on the affected vulnerable and disadvantaged populations and develop a Social Management Plan (SMP) with recommended mitigation measures and strategies for addressing negative impacts in the course of the project implementation.

The Social Assessment is based on lessons learnt from previous projects like South Sudan Safety Net Project (SSSNP), as well as on in-depth stakeholder consultations in the selected project counties, and on literature review. Since similar projects have been implemented in the past, strong lessons can be taken, and concrete risks have been identified based on actual experience. Throughout the implementation of the previous SSSNP, UNOPS was engaging the communities. During these engagements, the communities have expressed broad community support for the social safety net activities of the project. Project activities are expected to have positive impacts, including employment creation and income generation to support youth and women in their livelihoods, and the provision of opportunities and resources to engage in agricultural production, wage and self-employment, and/or other economic activities.

However, some project activities (e.g. especially those implemented under Component 1 i.e. Labour Intensive Public Works (LIPWs) and the targeting for the cash transfer), could potentially result in negative social impacts. Key identified risks in this assessment are health-related risks in regards to spreading of disease and injuries in public work activities, conflict-related risks through contested beneficiary selection or elite capture of the sub-projects, lack of participation of women, youth and vulnerable groups, implementation of child labor, exclusion of those who physically cannot perform work, inadequate design of public works activities failing to take into account specific gender considerations, or by inter-community conflicts over resource distribution (e.g. water, crops), and destruction of property through sub-project implementation. In relation to sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) and violence in general, key risks identified are sexual harassment and violence from beneficiaries towards vulnerable community members and beneficiaries, violence between beneficiaries, violence/SGBV from project staff towards beneficiaries and vice versa, as well as cases of domestic violence, armed gangs and interethnic conflicts.

Mitigation measures include a strong initial awareness campaign through locally and contextually appropriate means (e.g. use of local language, use of materials tailored to illiterate recipients etc.) on a variety of issues; beneficiary selection, (prevent charges of fees on beneficiary registration};, gender equality and SGBV prevention, (zero tolerance on SGBV by project beneficiaries and consequences for SGBV); prevention of child labor; handling of tools, payment modalities, land acquisition, prevention of diseases and their spreading. They also include appropriate initial local assessments, where deemed necessary, on local political economy to prevent elite capture, assessments to identify the most vulnerable populations for cash transfers, assessments of local land conflicts and land use. Further measures for gender equality include affirmative action in membership committees, and the formation of women's road or water management associations. In order to prevent domestic violence related to project outcomes, sensitization campaigns will be implemented with and through the Boma leaders. In severe cases of SGBV and based on consent by the survivor, linkages to respective service providers and where possible and

requested by the survivor, linkages to functioning justice institutions will be established and cases pursued through the appropriate justice institutions; in parallel to measures taken within the project (immediate suspension of workers, release of staff from duty etc.). Health sensitizations will be undertaken to mitigate risks from lack of latrines or public work injuries. Land acquisition procedures are put in place to prevent land conflicts.

A strong grievance redress mechanism (GRM) has been designed based on previous lessons and in view of being able to respond to some of the identified risks. The GRM is embedded in the project's institutional arrangements and comprises the key steps of a good GRM: assess and clarify, report, acknowledge and follow-up, verify, investigate and act, monitor and evaluate feedback.

In addition, monitoring mechanisms have been developed for all risks and their mitigation measures, which include strong indicators and targets, and which will ensure the implementation of risk mitigation measures. An adaptive management approach will allow for the annual review of risks and mitigation measures and encourage adjustments to the plan where necessary.

1.0   INTRODUCTION

1.1   Project Description

The proposed project is a US$129 million grant from the International Development Association (IDA) and will support four components, to be implemented over a 4-year period. The components are: (i) Cash Transfers and Complementary Social Measures; (ii) Provision of Economic Opportunities; (iii) Strengthened Institutional Capacity and Social Protection System; (iv) Project Management, Monitoring and Evaluation, and Knowledge Generation.

The project will be guided by principles of government ownership, capacity strengthening and close collaboration with partners for strengthened humanitarian-development-peace nexus. While it is envisioned that an initial on-the-ground implementation will need to be undertaken by UNOPS and other third-party agencies, the Government of the Republic of South Sudan will be the direct recipient of the IDA grant and be responsible for all aspects of project design, management, and implementation. As such, the focus from the onset will be to strengthen government capacities in terms of systems, procedures, and institutional development in a phased manner for an eventual government-led National Safety Net system. Efforts will be made to build on the experiences and lessons of previous relevant interventions in South Sudan to scale up what works and pilot new initiatives, starting small and expanding gradually, considering capacity and operational constraints. Design of project activities will be informed by analytical work done by the World Bank and partners in the Social Protection (SP) sector in South Sudan and other Fragility, Conflict and Violence (FCV) contexts, providing opportunities for testing innovations and advancing on policy dialogue around increased coherence in safety net approaches guided by evidence of success. Further, the project design will actively aim to strengthen the humanitarian-development-peace nexus for longer-term stability and development in support of on-going recovery efforts. Lastly, considerations on gender, GBV, and climate change adaptations will be mainstreamed across all project components.

1.2   Rationale and Objectives of the Social Assessment

It is important that the SNSOP ensures that vulnerable groups including Indigenous Peoples (IPs), internally displaced people (IDPs), women, youths, the refugees and host communities, are not excluded from the project where they meet the selection criteria.

The objective of the Social Assessment is to identify and understand the socio-economic and cultural characteristics of the vulnerable groups so as to inform the design and implementation of the SNSOP to ensure that it responds to their social development needs.

1.3 Project Development Objective and Components

The Project Development Objective (PDO) is to provide cash transfers and access to income generating opportunities and strengthen the National Safety Net Delivery System

Component 1: Cash Transfers and Complementary Social Measures

This component will provide cash assistance to poor and vulnerable households to meet immediate consumption gaps, while also supporting accompanying social measures to promote improved household awareness and investment in human capital growth. Specifically, cash assistance will be provided through two modalities, namely Labor-Intensive Public Works (LIPW, sub-component 1.1) and Direct Income

Support (DIS, sub-component 1.2), with special attention given to adjusting the design of these activities to promote linkages to enhanced social opportunities, as appropriate and feasible. Accompanying social measures will be mainstreamed across LIPW and Direct Income Support (DIS) for delivering in-depth complementary social measures, including but not limited to Cash "Plus" trainings, targeted to eligible female beneficiaries to deepen their understanding and investments in relevant social areas for strengthened human capital development. More detailed information on the activities proposed under this component is provided below.

Subcomponent 1.1: Labour Intensive Public Works

This sub-component will continue the LIPW component under the Productive Safety Net for Socio-Economic Opportunities Project (SNSOP) to provide poor and vulnerable households with cash assistance to meet urgent consumption gaps, with refined design to promote social opportunities. The objective will be to increase and sustain household assets and smooth consumption during economic hardships through reliable and predictable cash assistance for enhanced household resilience to shocks and stresses. Public works activities will continue to be labour intensive and will focus on activities that will benefit the community at large, with the aim that improved community assets lead to better natural resource management, thereby contributing to climate adaptation. Innovations learned under the SNSDP and SSSNP aimed at promoting food security and livelihoods opportunities (i.e., group-based small scale agricultural LIPW activities) will be given priority, as will be sub-projects that are focused on supporting flood control and integrated watershed management and promoting "climate smart" public works. Recognizing the highly crisis-prone context of South Sudan, with sporadic localised violence and recurring weather shocks, implementation of the LIPW will embed an adaptive approach to waive labour requirements and continue providing cash assistance to existing beneficiary households, thereby flexibly switching from LIPW to Direct Income Support, as necessary.

Implementation of the LIPW will continue to prioritise in-depth stakeholder engagement and will be linked to measures focused on enhancing social opportunities for improved human capital development. In-depth stakeholder mobilisation and awareness building with target communities and local governments will be undertaken through intensive beneficiary outreach and communication campaigns to enhance understanding and capacity for project implementation. Broad-based community engagement in terms of beneficiary household targeting, selection of priority works, and supervision and oversight will continue to be prioritised, using the existing delivery tools established under the SNSDP and strengthened under the SSSNP. In a new effort, focus will also be given to utilising the LIPW platform to promote enhanced access to social opportunities for investments in children's human capital. For example, increased attention will be given to the gender and child sensitivity in the LIPW design and implementation by: (i) strengthening measures to incorporate women's priorities during the selection of sub-projects; and ii) including sub-projects that contribute towards nutrition and Early Childhood Development (ECD), such as kitchen gardens and community based ECD sites. Amount and duration of transfer, as well as the target number of beneficiary households, will be determined during preparation.

Sub-component 1.2: Direct Income Support

This sub-component will continue the DIS component under the SSSNP to provide unconditional cash transfers to the poorest and most vulnerable households that either are labour constrained to engage in

LIPW or are identified as extremely vulnerable within targeted refugees and host communities. Both the experience of the SNSDP and SSSNP demonstrate that relatively large segments of vulnerable populations (i.e. the elderly, people living with severe disabilities, and child- and female-headed households) are often excluded from LIPW activities because they cannot provide labour, and therefore are most impacted by climate and other shocks in the absence of safety net assistance. Moreover, a diagnostic of the South Sudan SP sector undertaken by the World Bank demonstrates that a majority of the safety net interventions in the country tend to include work requirements (i.e., public works, cash for work), limiting the extent to which different instruments can be targeted to relevant groups for human capital accumulation.

In response, the DIS sub-component will continue to fill this gap, and will provide unconditional cash transfers to most vulnerable households that are either labour constrained or are identified to be extremely vulnerable in target refugee and host communities, as identified by the eligibility note for the Window for Host Communities and Refugees (WHR) financing. The cash assistance will also be linked to measures aimed at promoting enhanced social opportunities for improved human capital development. It will be delivered using the same operational tools as the LIPW, as beneficiary households of both sub-components will be from the same counties and communities, and transfer amounts and duration will also be aligned. Standardising the delivery across the two subcomponents will promote greater cost efficiency and minimise potential grievances and tensions between the different beneficiary households. Eligibility criteria for the categorical targeting based on specific vulnerabilities and the number of beneficiary households to be targeted under this sub-component will be confirmed during project preparation.

Component 2: Provision of Economic Opportunities

This component will pilot measures aimed at enhancing economic opportunities of poor and vulnerable youth in selected project locations in an effort to support the "Idle Youth" to become productive citizens of South Sudan. This component will target a subset of eligible cash transfer beneficiaries, both male and female youth, and support them to strengthen their livelihoods and income generating opportunities for enhanced economic welfare. Pairing cash transfers with economic opportunities will support households to focus their investments on livelihoods, with the cash transfer used to smooth consumption in times of need. Targeting a subset of Component 1 beneficiaries will also enable the proposed project to use a single mobilisation, targeting, payment, grievance, and monitoring system for both components, thereby ensuring cost-efficiency and harmonisation and synergies of efforts. To that end, in addition to the cash assistance, these beneficiaries will be provided with a series of interventions tailored to the local context, recognizing the impact of limited formal economic opportunities and youth capacity on design choice and the need to ensure differentiated approaches across rural and urban areas. Possible activities to be further explored during preparation are:

- **Business and soft skills training:** In-depth training on relevant business and soft skills, particularly on financial literacy, can help provide the foundation for improved livelihood outcomes and better resource management at the household level. This activity will build on the experiences and lessons learned from the financial literacy Cash 'Plus' training delivered through the SSSNP and SNSDP to expand and refine the training content and strengthen delivery modalities targeted at youth.

- **Livelihood grants:** Following a set of training, a cash grant may be provided to beneficiaries to facilitate the start of livelihoods and income generating activities (IGA) for the household, based on a viable livelihoods plan.
- **Coaching and mentorship:** The regular and accessible presence of community-based coaches and mentors can be instrumental in the success of economic inclusion interventions, albeit also expensive and time and effort intensive. As such, cost-effective options for identifying and training community-based coaches and mentors with a strong understanding of local contexts will be discussed.
- **IGA groups or cooperatives:** Forming IGA groups and/or cooperatives can help build resilience and ensure sustainability, as group members can support each other during times of need or shock. Groups may also have more access to additional resources or services and can provide peer guidance and lessons learning.
- **Formation of Savings/Lending Groups or Rotating Funds:** The practice of informal savings groups is already strong in South Sudan, particularly around markets. Experience has however found that male youths find it difficult to operate and sustain within these groups. As such, options for forming and sustaining these groups for youth, leveraging existing practices, will be explored as possible sources of capital funding and cushions during a shock.
- **Linkages to financial services like Microfinance Institutions (MFIs):** Linkages with existing financial services, such as MFIs, can be highly valuable in promoting financial inclusion and access to resources. However, the MFI ecosystem in South Sudan is highly underdeveloped and largely concentrated in urban areas. Therefore, possibilities for facilitating linkages to existing MFIs, including the Government's Youth Enterprise Fund currently under development, will be assessed, particularly in urban centres.

Given that this is a new area of SP support for the Bank in South Sudan, the aim will be to start small and scale up interventions based on evidence, as appropriate and feasible. Activities will be piloted in both rural and urban areas, contextually customised to take into account key considerations such as local market access and value chain, availability of services, climate change vulnerabilities, and viable livelihood opportunities, among others. To that end, detailed location specific feasibility and market assessments and mapping of existing services and activities (both formal and informal) will be undertaken in each target location, with emphasis given to effective coordination and collaboration with relevant stakeholders to create synergies and avoid duplication.

Component 3: Strengthened Institutional Capacity and Social Protection System
This component will support institutional capacity building for SP and strengthening of the safety net delivery system to serve as the foundation of an eventual government-led national safety net program in South Sudan. Currently, the cash assistance under the SSSNP is being directly implemented through a UN agency, namely UNOPS, which limits the project's ability to invest in national government institutions for capacity building, creating a gap in sustaining the efforts to develop the SP sector started by the SNSDP. However, the shift back to government-led implementation under the proposed SNSOP now provides an important opportunity to continue strengthening institutional capacity and delivery systems to enable the Government to gradually take over in a phased approach the full management and implementation of a nationally owned safety net program. This will not only ensure sustained investment in predictable and

reliable safety net provision for human capital accumulation but will also support increased citizen confidence in national institutions by signalling the Government's commitment to supporting the welfare of its people.

Focus will be on enhancing the capacity of the Ministry of Gender, Child and Social Welfare (MGCSW) to enable it to effectively lead and coordinate the SP sector and eventually establish and implement a national safety net program. As such, technical assistance will be provided to the Social Protection department of the MGCSW on the following possible activities: (i) review the National Social Protection Policy Framework (NSPPF) to align it with changing country dynamics and needs; (ii) develop an implementation framework to operationalize the NSPPF; (iii) establish a national high-level strategic governance arrangement for SP; (iv) develop and implement a Capacity Building Plan; (v) provide technical assistance and capacity building (e.g., trainings), as appropriate; and (vi) develop design options of a Government-led national safety net program, among others. Exact activities to be supported for institutional capacity building will be finalised during preparation, and will serve as the first phase of efforts, which will lay the foundation for the development and roll out of a nationally owned safety net program under the second phase.

Support will also be given to further strengthen the key safety net delivery tools and serve as the backbone of the eventual Government-led national safety net program, to be managed by the Social Protection department. Specifically, the component will enhance the existing MIS and community-based Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM). For the MIS, focus will be on supporting innovative options for the Social Protection department to manage the MIS for transparent and effective delivery of safety nets, given the effort and time that will be required to sufficiently build the department's capacity to host and manage the MIS on its own.

Attention will also be given to integrating an M&E system within the MIS and supporting data deduplication with partner MISs. Technical assistance may also be provided to support the development and rollout of an integrated beneficiary registry to enable shock responsive safety net and linkages with social services through rapid and cost-effective identification of beneficiaries, pending availability of additional funding, possibly through the proposed Multi-Donor Transition Trust Fund. For the GRM, focus will be on continuing to strengthen community sensitization and awareness building and social accountability measures for GBV prevention, risk mitigation and response, building on the on-going SSSNP efforts and GBV analytical work undertaken by the World Bank.

Component 4: Project Management, Monitoring and Evaluation, and Knowledge Generation
This component will support the day-to-day project management, monitoring, and coordination, as well as broader knowledge generation. Thus, it will support the on boarding of necessary human resources and technical assistance to implement the envisioned activities. It will also ensure that robust monitoring and supervision arrangements are established, including a third-party monitor (TPM), to track progress, take stock of implementation experience, and identify challenges for timely response and course correction. Further, this component will support coordination and collaboration with partners to leverage on existing efforts for maximum impact. Related, it will include a strong learning agenda to take stock of lessons learned and experiences of particular aspects of the socioeconomic interventions to facilitate the scale-up

of activities. In addition, while it is not anticipated that a rigorous impact evaluation will be undertaken given insecurity and access challenges as well as the funding limitations and short project duration, some form of process evaluation and qualitative assessments of impacts will be undertaken to learn from the implementation experience. Specific details and nature of the monitoring and supervision arrangements, as well as assessments and evaluation to be undertaken, will be further clarified during preparation.

1.4 Project Target Locations

The SNSOP will be implemented in 15 counties across South Sudan shown in figure 1.1 below, i.e. 10 SSSNP counties, 2 refugee-hosting Counties, namely Maban and Pariang, as well as in 3 new locations, which will be selected using the Project Targeting Index (PTI).
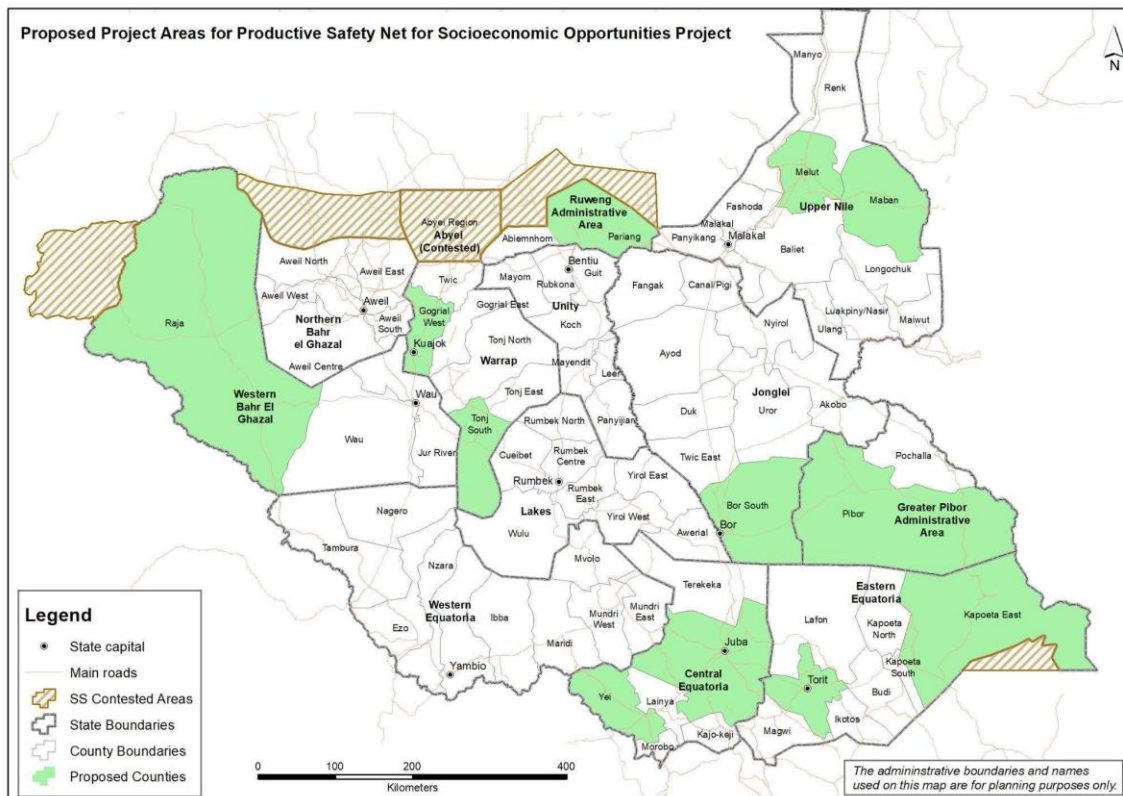

Figure 1.1: Proposed target locations for the SNSOP

1.5 Project Management Structure

The Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security (MAFS) will maintain a Project Coordination Unit (PCU) and will use direct contracting to bring in lead technical partners for implementation while the United Nations Office of Project Services (UNOPS) will focus much on component 1.

To ensure coordination between the PCU and the lead technical partners, MAFS will lead a steering committee to formulate annual work plans (AWPs), track project progress, and resolve technical design issues. The steering committee will include leadership from MAFS, PCU staff, staff from the lead technical partners, and other members as determined by the core members. The committee will meet to formulate the first AWP and then at least quarterly thereafter.

1.6   Methodology

The methodology employed in conducting this SA involved collection of data from both primary and secondary sources. Primary data was collected through consultation with various stakeholders, key informant interviews (KIIs), focus group discussions and field observations in selected counties, while secondary data was obtained through review of documented lessons learned during the implementation of the SNSDP and SSSNP, the SA for the SSSNP, as well as other literature.

2.0 POLICY AND LEGAL FRAMEWORK

This Social Assessment has been conducted to inform the ESMF for the SSSNP to ensure the project fully complies with legislations and procedures in South Sudan and international treaties, as well as with the World Bank and UNOPS environmental and social safeguard policies. As such, relevant environment and social safeguard practices from theoretical and empirical sources from the Republic of South Sudan (RSS), the World Bank and the United Nations were reviewed to understand the implementation processes required to ensure social safeguard compliance. Further details on the relevant legislation and policies can be found below.

2.1 Legal Framework of the Republic of South Sudan

The Transitional Constitution of the Republic of South Sudan of 2011 includes numerous provisions that have a bearing on the environment. Article 41 (1) provides that the people of South Sudan shall have a right to a clean and healthy environment; (2) that every person shall have the Obligation to protect the environment for the benefit of present; and (3) that future generations shall have the right to inherit an environment protected for the benefit of present and future generations. Specific measures to ensure the objectives above include: a) Prevention of pollution and ecological degradation; b) Promotion of conservation; and c) Securing of ecologically sustainable development and use of natural resources while promoting rational economic and social development so as to protect the biodiversity of South Sudan. Furthermore, Article 166 (6) expects local governments to involve communities in decision-making in the promotion of a safe and healthy environment.

The Land Act of 2009: One of the key objectives of the Land Act is to promote a land management system, which can protect and preserve the environment and ecology for the sustainable development of South Sudan. It also provides for fair and prompt compensation to any person whose right of occupancy, ownership, or recognized long-standing occupancy of customary use of land is revoked or otherwise interfered with by the Government.

The Land Act reinforces the Government's recognition of customary land tenure: 'Customary land rights including those held in common shall have equal force and effect in law with freehold or leasehold rights.' Community land can be allocated to investors as long as investment activity 'reflects an important interest for the community' and 'contributes economically and socially to the development of the local community'. It also requires that state authorities approve land acquisitions above 250 feddans (105 hectares) and create a regulated ceiling on land allocations.

The Land Act requires the Government to consult local communities and consider their views in decisions about community land. The Act also gives pastoralists special protection: 'No person shall without permission to carry out any activity on the communal grazing land which may prevent or restrict the residents of the traditional communities concerned from exercising their grazing rights'.

The Draft National Land Policy of 2015: The principal aim of the Draft National Land Policy (NLP) is to strengthen security of tenure for all citizens without discrimination. The policy emphasises equitable access to land by all people through a variety of policies and strategies, including the retention of customary tenure systems which provide access to land as a social right in rural areas, and through land programs in urban areas that provide security of tenure to serviced land at reasonable cost. The policy recognises that provision of equitable and secure access to land, is an important component in poverty eradication. Recognizing that women are often denied the opportunity to enjoy land rights and access to land on an equal basis with men, the policy emphasises the importance of initiating legal reform and legal action on behalf of women who seek to exercise their land rights. Customary tenure arrangements require legal reform to break down existing barriers to women holding rights to land on the basis of equality with

men. Specific priority is given to the rights of widows to inherit land and the rights of female-headed households to secure land on an equal basis with men. The policy also recognizes the need to ensure that refugees, IDPs and returnees have secure land rights for future peace and security of the country. The policy supports efforts that facilitate the transition from displacement to a "future of long-lasting peace and sustainable development"

The Food and Agriculture Policy Framework of 2007, of the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Cooperatives and Rural Development emphasises the need to transform agriculture from traditional/subsistence system to achieve food security through science-based, market oriented, competitive and profitable agricultural system without compromising the sustainability of the natural resources for generations to come. In order to achieve the above, it developed key strategic objectives that include:
- Priority policies that quickly boosts agricultural production
- Make available agricultural inputs, including credit facility, at affordable cost
- Rehabilitate and expand rural infrastructure including feeder roads, markets
- Develop and provide research and extension services, and market linkages

The Public Health (Water and Sanitation) Act of 2008: This act emphasises the prevention of pollution of air and water, and also encourages improvement in sanitation. Key provisions include the protection of the sanitation of the environment; it encompasses the measure to address the pollution of water and air. The following are measures geared towards control of pollution of water:
a) Measures to prevent pollution of water for consumption.
b) Measures destined to prevent pollution of potable water
c) Anyone who offers the public water to drink or for human food, and which includes frozen food should ensure that the water conforms to the portability regulations;
d) Management and disposal of hazardous wastes; and e) Storage of wastes on the premises of waste generators.
The Public Health Act (2008) also needs to protect water pollution through the enforcement of regulations and measures necessary to combat all elements of pollution and protect the natural level of the environment and public health.

Laws and Regulations on Child Labor: South Sudan has ratified some key international conventions concerning Child Labor. Furthermore, Section 12 of the Labour Act and Article 25(3) of the Child Act define the minimum age for labour as 14 years of age. Section 10 of the Labour Act, Article 22(3)(b) of the Child Act and several Articles of the Penal Code prohibit forced labour.

Laws on Gender Equality and SGBV: Article 16 of the Transitional Constitution prescribes that women shall be accorded full and equal dignity of the person with men; that they should have equal pay for equal work and other related benefits to men; and that women shall have the right to participate equally in public life. Section 247 of the Penal Code defines sexual intercourse without consent as rape, and defines that consent cannot be given under the age of 18. It further defines that sexual intercourse by a married couple does not constitute rape.

2.2　　World Bank ESF Standards

The WB's environmental and social standards are a cornerstone of its support to sustainable poverty reduction. The objective of these standards is to prevent and mitigate undue harm to people and their environment in the development process. These standards provide guidelines for the Bank and borrower staff in the identification, preparation, and implementation of programs and projects. Environmental and Social Standards also provide a platform for the participation of stakeholders in project design and have been an important instrument for building a sense of ownership among local populations. In essence, the standards ensure that environmental and social issues are evaluated in decision making, help reduce and

manage the risks associated with a project or program, and provide a mechanism for consultation and disclosure of information.

ESS 1: Assessment and Management of Environmental and Social Risks and Impacts: ESS1 sets out the client's responsibilities for assessing, managing and monitoring environmental and social risks and impacts associated with each stage of a project supported by the Bank through Investment Project Financing, in order to achieve environmental and social outcomes consistent with the Environmental and Social Standards (ESSs).

The environmental and social assessment will be based on current information, including a description and delineation of the project and any associated aspects and environmental and social baseline data at an appropriate level of detail sufficient to inform characterization and identification of risks and impacts and mitigation measures. The assessment will evaluate the project's potential environmental and social risks and impacts, with a particular attention to those that may fall disproportionately on disadvantaged and/or vulnerable social groups; examine project alternatives; identify ways of improving project selection, siting, planning, design and implementation in order to apply the mitigation hierarchy for adverse environmental and social impacts and seek opportunities to enhance the positive impacts of the project. The environmental and social assessment will include stakeholder engagement as an integral part of the assessment, in accordance with ESS10. According to ESS1 the client will manage environmental and social risks and impacts of the project throughout the project life cycle in a systematic manner, proportionate to the nature and scale of the project and the potential risks and impacts. The client is thereby responsible for ensuring that implementing partners, contractors and subcontractors with these standards.

ESS 2 – Labour and Working Conditions: ESS2 recognizes the importance of employment creation and income generation in the pursuit of poverty reduction and inclusive economic growth. Borrowers can promote sound worker-management relationships and enhance the development benefits of a project by treating workers in the project fairly and providing safe and healthy working conditions. ESS2 applies to project workers including full time, part-time, temporary, seasonal, migrant and community workers. The Borrower will develop and implement labour management procedures applicable to the project. These procedures will set out the way in which project workers will be managed, in accordance with the requirements of national law and this ESS. The procedures will address the way in which this ESS will apply to different categories of project workers including direct workers, and spell out how the Borrower will ensure that primary suppliers put measures in place for management of their workforce in accordance with ESS2. ESS2 also requires a grievance redress system, which allows workers to raise their grievances.

ESS 3 – Resource Efficiency and Pollution Prevention and Management: ESS3 recognizes that economic activity and urbanisation often generate pollution to air, water and land, and consume finite resources that may threaten people, ecosystem services and the environment at the local, regional and global levels. The current and projected atmospheric concentration of greenhouse gases (GHG) threatens the welfare of current and future generations. At the same time, more efficient and effective resource use, pollution prevention and GHG emission avoidance, and mitigation technologies and practices have become more accessible and achievable. This ESS sets out the requirements to address resource efficiency and pollution prevention and management throughout the project life cycle consistent with GIIP. The ESMF should include sections on resource efficiency and pollution prevention and management. Assessment of risks and impacts and proposed mitigation measures related to relevant requirements of ESS3, including raw

materials, water use, air pollution, hazardous materials and hazardous waste are included within scope of the ESMF, and ESMPs as relevant.

ESS 4 – Community Health and Safety: ESS4 recognizes that project activities, equipment and infrastructure can increase community exposure to risks and impacts. In addition, communities that are already subjected to impacts from climate change may also experience an acceleration or intensification of impacts due to project activities. ESS4 addresses the health, safety, and security risks and impacts on project-affected communities and the corresponding responsibility of borrowers to avoid or minimise such risks and impacts, with particular attention to people whom, because of their particular circumstances, may be vulnerable. While not explicitly mentioned, prevention and mitigation of different forms of gender-based violence, specifically Sexual Exploitation and Abuse, is being covered by ESS4.

ESS 5 – Land Acquisition, Restrictions on Land Use, and Involuntary Resettlement: ESS5 recognizes that project-related land acquisition and restrictions on land use can have adverse impacts on communities and persons. Project-related land acquisition or restrictions on land use may cause physical displacement (relocation, loss of residential land or loss of shelter), economic displacement (loss of land, assets or access to assets, leading to loss of income sources or other means of livelihood), or both. The term "involuntary resettlement" refers to these impacts. Resettlement is considered involuntary when affected persons or communities do not have the right to refuse land acquisition or restrictions on land use that result in displacement. Experience and research indicate that physical and economic displacement, if unmitigated, may give rise to severe economic, social and environmental risks: production systems may be dismantled; people face impoverishment if their productive resources or other income sources are lost; people may be relocated to environments where their productive skills are less applicable and the competition for resources greater; community institutions and social networks may be weakened; kin groups may be dispersed; and cultural identity, traditional authority, and the potential for mutual help may be diminished or lost. For these reasons, involuntary resettlement should be avoided. Where involuntary resettlement is unavoidable, it will be minimised and appropriate measures to mitigate adverse impacts on displaced persons (and on host communities receiving displaced persons) will be carefully planned and implemented. The ESS does not apply to voluntary land transactions, as will be relevant for the SNSOP. Voluntary, legally recorded market transactions are those in which the seller has the opportunity to retain the land (as well as to refuse to sell it) and is fully informed about their options. Such voluntary transactions, However, ESS5 will apply where a voluntary land transaction may result in the displacement of persons other than the seller, who occupy, use or claim rights to the land in question.

ESS 6 – Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Management of Living Natural Resources: ESS6 recognizes that protecting and conserving biodiversity and sustainably managing living natural resources are fundamental to sustainable development. Biodiversity is defined as the variability among living organisms from all sources including, inter alia, terrestrial, marine and other aquatic ecosystems and the ecological complexes of which they are a part; this includes diversity within species, between species and of ecosystems. Biodiversity often underpins ecosystem services valued by humans. Impacts on biodiversity can therefore often adversely affect the delivery of ecosystem services. ESS6 recognizes the importance of maintaining core ecological functions of habitats, including forests, and the biodiversity they support. Habitat is defined as a terrestrial, freshwater or marine geographical unit or airways that supports assemblages of living organisms and their interactions with the non-living environment. All habitats support complexities of living organisms and vary in terms of species diversity, abundance and importance.

This ESS also addresses sustainable management of primary production and harvesting of living natural resources. ESS6 recognizes the need to consider the livelihood of project-affected parties, including Indigenous Peoples, whose access to, or use of, biodiversity or living natural resources may be affected by a project. The potential, positive role of project affected parties, including Indigenous Peoples, in biodiversity conservation and sustainable management of living natural resources is also considered.

ESS7 - Indigenous Peoples/Sub-Saharan African Historically Underserved Traditional Local

This ESS applies to distinct social and cultural groups. The terminology used for such groups varies from country to country, and often reflects national considerations. ESS7 uses the term "Indigenous Peoples/Sub-Saharan African Historically Underserved Traditional Local Communities," recognizing that groups may be referred to in different countries by different terms. Such terms include "Sub-Saharan African historically underserved traditional local communities," "indigenous ethnic minorities," "aboriginals," "hill tribes," "vulnerable and marginalised groups," "minority nationalities," "scheduled tribes," "first nations" or "tribal groups."ESS7 contributes to poverty reduction and sustainable development by ensuring that projects supported by the Bank enhance opportunities for Indigenous Peoples/Sub-Saharan African Historically Underserved Traditional Local Communities to participate in, and benefit from, the development process in ways that do not threaten their unique cultural identities and well-being.

Key requirements under ESS7 include that the World Bank determines whether indigenous peoples/Sub Saharan African historically underserved traditional local communities are present in, or have collective attachment to the project area; and that the borrower develops a rigorous consultation strategy and identifies means through which the borrower undertakes effective consultation with people identified for purposes of ESS7 on the project design and implementation. Furthermore, in the case of South Sudan, the project will not have adverse impacts on land, natural resources, as well as tangible and intangible cultural heritage, nor relocation of Indigenous peoples since most people meet the ESS7 requirements.,.

ESS 8 – Cultural Heritage: ESS8 recognizes that cultural heritage provides continuity in tangible and intangible forms between the past, present and future. People identify with cultural heritage as a reflection and expression of their constantly evolving values, beliefs, knowledge and traditions. Cultural heritage, in its many manifestations, is important as a source of valuable scientific and historical information, as an economic and social asset for development, and as an integral part of people's cultural identity and practice. ESS8 sets out measures designed to protect cultural heritage throughout the project life cycle. The requirements of ESS8 apply to cultural heritage regardless of whether or not it has been legally protected or previously identified or disturbed. The requirements of ESS8 apply to intangible cultural heritage only if a physical component of a project will have a material impact on such cultural heritage or if a project intends to use such cultural heritage for commercial purposes. The borrower will implement globally recognized practices for field-based study, documentation and protection of cultural heritage in connection with the project, including by contractors and other third parties.

A chance finds procedure is a project-specific procedure that will be followed if previously unknown cultural heritage is encountered during project activities. It will be included in all contracts relating to construction of the project, including excavations, demolition, movement of earth and flooding or other changes in the physical environment. The chance finds procedure will set out how chance finds associated with the project will be managed. The procedure will include a requirement to notify relevant authorities

of found objects or sites by cultural heritage experts; to fence-off the area of finds or sites to avoid further disturbance; to conduct an assessment of found objects or sites by cultural heritage experts; to identify and implement actions consistent with the requirements of this ESS and national law; and to train project personnel and project workers on chance find procedures.

ESS9 is the only non-relevant standard for SNSOP.

ESS 10 – Stakeholder Engagement and Information Disclosure: This ESS recognizes the importance of open and transparent engagement between the Borrower and project stakeholders as an essential element of good international practice. Effective stakeholder engagement can improve the environmental and social sustainability of projects, enhance project acceptance and make a significant contribution to successful project design and implementation. The client will engage with stakeholders throughout the project life cycle, commencing such engagement as early as possible in the project development process and in a timeframe that enables meaningful consultations with stakeholders on project design. The nature, scope and frequency of stakeholder engagement will be proportionate to the nature and scale of the project and its potential risks and impacts. Stakeholder engagement is an inclusive process conducted throughout the project life cycle. When properly designed and implemented, it supports the development of strong, constructive and responsive relationships that are important for successful management of a project's environmental and social risks. Stakeholder engagement is most effective when initiated at an early stage of the project development process and is an integral part of early project decisions and the assessment, management and monitoring of the project's environmental and social risks and impacts. In consultation with the Bank, the borrower will develop and implement a Stakeholder Engagement Framework/Plan (SEF/P) is proportional to the nature and scale of the project and its potential risks and impacts. The SEF also outlines the establishment of a functioning grievance redress mechanism.

2.3 United Nations Safeguard Policies

Most recently, the United Nations Environment Management Group (EMG) has developed common safeguards for all UN entities: Moving Towards a Common Approach to Environmental and Social Standards for UN Programming. The document is currently still in draft form, but is soon to be expected to function as a joint document serving all UN entities. The draft UN standards are by and large aligned to the World Bank safeguard policies.

Pollution Prevention and Resource Efficiency (Thematic Area 8): this policy aims to avoid and minimise adverse effects on human health, promote sustainable and efficient use of resources, and avoid hazardous and non-hazardous waste. As mentioned above, certain public works activities related to soil and water conservation and land productivity measures undertaken by SNSOP beneficiaries may require pest management strategies (see SNSOP ESMF).

Indigenous peoples (UN Thematic Area 6): this policy recognizes and promotes the rights of indigenous people including to their land and resources. As most of South Sudan's population consists of 'ethnic groups', which is one of the definitions of 'indigenous people', this project largely covers 'indigenous peoples'. To mitigate any negative impacts on indigenous peoples, this project implements meaningful consultation and participation, request free, prior and informed consent, support rights to lands, ensure culturally appropriate benefits, among other measures, as per policy.

3.0 PROJECT MODALITIES

3.1 Key Implementation Modalities

3.1.1 Targeting arrangements

Beneficiary Household (HH) Targeting under the SNSOP is done through a combination of the following strategies:

Geographic targeting: by focusing on the areas where the poorest and most vulnerable people live.

Community-based targeting: using simple and objective criteria to select the poorest households. Two groups of HH will be targeted: a) vulnerable HH with able-bodied members who will engage in public works and b) vulnerable HH without able-bodied members who will be selected for direct income support. The detailed procedures for this will be laid out in the Operations Manual.

Administrative targeting: this complements the community targeting through verification of the community-level targeting and coordination with other support to the poor. The various procedures for verification of beneficiaries will also be discussed in the Operations Manual.

The Registration Committees that will consist of members selected from the communities will do the identification and selection of beneficiaries. The committees will be trained on the targeting criteria and all steps to ensure transparent processes during the registration exercises. The Boma Development Committees (BDC) and Payam Development Committee (PDC) will oversee the registration committees, and their activities will be facilitated by UNOPS. Beneficiaries will be identified and selected at the Boma level through the participatory, inclusive and transparent community- based targeting process led by BDCs and PDCs and facilitated by UNOPS. After that, verification and validation is undertaken, and followed by biometric registration of the verified and validated beneficiaries into the MIS.

3.1.2 Payment procedures: LIPWs beneficiaries will be paid based on the number of workdays allocated and the number of days actually worked. The list of beneficiaries to be paid and the amount to be paid to each will be generated through the MIS based on marked attendance. It is planned under the project that attendance will also be biometric based. Whereas Direct Income Support (DIS) beneficiaries will be paid without any condition once they are biometrically registered.

3.1 3 Project Institutional Arrangements

The section below discusses the institutional structures of government and local stakeholders, which will underpin the implementation of the project by MAFS. The World Bank will provide technical assistance and implementation support, as needed, as well as supervision of project implementation through supervision missions. MAFS will therefore be reporting directly to the Bank on all aspects of the project.

At the national level, a National Advisory Committee (NAC) composed of Undersecretaries of the relevant ministries would be established to provide policy and strategic guidance and coordination. In addition, a National Technical Committee composed of the relevant Director Generals and Directors would be formed to provide technical support in implementation of the proposed project. At the local levels, the structures

established under the SSSNP would continue to support daily implementation and coordination. These structures include, but are not limited to the following:

- Group Leaders at the community level for each activity e.g. LIPWs

- Appeals Committees (for appeal and grievance uptake) including GBV focal points handling of GBV related complaints and conducting training and community awareness on GBV risks;
- Community Supervision Teams (CSTs)
- Boma Development Committee/ Quarter Council Committee (BDC/ QCC)
- Payam/ Municipal Development Committee (P/MDC)
- County Core Team (CCT)
- State Technical Committee (STC)
- National Technical Committee (NTC)
- National Advisory Committee (NAC)

At all levels, the corresponding staff of the MAFS will engage closely with UNOPS and other implementing partners to ensure coordination and collaboration in implementation of the proposed project. It is important to note here that in the most conflict-affected and opposition held areas, these local level structures may be constituted differently based on the existing structures and systems on the ground.

3.0 SNSOP institutional structures and their roles and responsibilities

Institution	Composition	Roles and Responsibilities
National Advisory Committee	● Composition: Ministry of Finance and Planning (MoFP), Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security (MAFS), Ministry of Gender, Child, Community and Social Welfare (MoGCSW), LGB – at Undersecretary (US) level, or as delegated ● Chaired by US MAFS ● Co-chaired by US Planning-MoFP ● National Technical Committee members ● PCU Director and Project Manager ● WB Task Team Leader ● UNOPS Country Director	● Overall policy and strategic guidance, ● Coordination with other government agencies and other development partners at national level; ● Updates on progress and planning NB: Meet quarterly, or more as necessary

Institution	Composition	Roles and Responsibilities
National Technical Committee	- Composition: Ministry of Finance and Planning (MoFP), Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security (MAFS), Ministry of Gender, Child, Community and Social Welfare (MoGCSW), LGB – at Director Generals (DGs) and Directors level, or as delegated - Chaired by the DG of MAFS - Co-Chaired by DG-Aid Coordination of MoFP - Project Director PCU - Project Manager PCU - Project Manager UNOPS (Secretary) - WB Task Team Leader	- Technical support to the project - Facilitate partnerships with other stakeholders - Coordination with state level authorities and other development partners - Update on work plan progress and annual planning NB: Meet monthly initially and will be changed quarterly after relative stabilisation of the project
State technical Committee	- Composition: State Ministry of Finance (SMoF), State Ministry of Agriculture (SMoA), State Ministry of Social Development (SMoSD), State Ministry of Physical Infrastructure (SMoPI), State Ministry of Local Government (SMoLG), State Secretariat General - at DGs and Directors level - Chaired by DG MoA - Co-Chaired by DG MoSD - UNOPS Team Leader (TL) at State level- Secretary	- Technical support to the project - Coordination with local level authorities and other development partners - Facilitate and support integration of project plans with overall state and county plans, and project implementation within the State;
County/Municipality Core Team	- Composition: Director of Public Works (DoPWs), Director of Social Development (DoSD), Director of Health (DoH), Director of Education (DoE) - Chaired by the County Executive Direct (ED) - Co-Chaired by the Planning Officer - UNOPS TL- Secretary	- Support implementation of the project at the county/municipality level including; - Identification and selection of vulnerable Payams/blocks and Bomas/quarter councils; - Identification and selection of vulnerable households; - Participate in the deliberation and dissemination of targeting criteria; - Participate in the identification of sub-projects

Institution	Composition	Roles and Responsibilities
		• Provide technical support to the Payam Core Team; • Report to the state technical committee through UNOPS TL
Payam/Block Development Committee	• All Payam/Block Development committee (DC) Members • Chaired by Payam/Block (P/B) DC Chair • UNOPS Community Mobilisation Assistant (CMA) - Secretary • P/B ED/Administrator-Deputy Secretary • All Technical Team of the Payam/Block as Ex-Officio	• Work with Boma and village leaders during beneficiary targeting, and sub project identification and prioritisation; • Work with UNOPS in the development of subproject proposals; • Manage allocation of day to day tasks for efficient and effective use of the available labour force and resources; • Report to the County Executive Director through the secretary (UNOPS CMA) • Work toward sustaining the management of created assets during and after completion; • Ensure the security and maintenance of hand tools, inputs industrial goods, etc. • Ensure quality of work output.
Boma/Quarter (B/Q) Council Development Committee	• B/Q Council DC Members as members • Chaired by the B/Q DC Chair • UNOPS Community Mobilisation Clerk (CMC) as Secretary • Deputy secretary B/Q Administrator where they exist	• Facilitate identification of target beneficiaries and validation by the community; • Facilitate the identification and prioritisation of subprojects; • Supervises the subproject implementation; • Together with local chief maintain peace and stability at project and payment sites; • Monitor the daily attendance and ensure quality of work output; • Ensure the safekeeping of hand tools, inputs (industrial goods, etc.) provided by the project; • Ensure the approved beneficiary list is posted in public places.

Institution	Composition	Roles and Responsibilities
Boma/Quarter Council Appeal Committee (AC)	● Chair-Elected among the beneficiaries ● Secretary – identified by the Appeal Committee members ● 50% will be women ●	● Supervise the identification and registration of beneficiaries; ● Receive, record and resolve complaints related to project implementation; ● Complaints that will not be resolved at this level will be escalated up the institutional management structure (to the relevant level). ● Monitor project implementation at the project localities.
Community Supervision Team (CSTs) and Group Leaders	● Five members per location selected from the beneficiaries	● Enforce work norms and beneficiary norms and responsibilities; ● Receive and handle site-related complaints and passes them to ACs; ● Guides the implementation of the public works activities; ● Oversee implementation progress, oversee measurement of work and payment of wages, and certification of work completion

4.0 KEY FINDINGS OF THE STAKEHOLDER CONSULTATIONS

Consultations with stakeholders, comprising community members, local chiefs as well as local government institutions, were conducted in three SSSNP counties namely Yei, Melut and Raja. The table below indicates the areas that were visited by the UNOPS team during the SA process.

Table 4.1: Counties visited during the Social Assessment

County	Areas Visited	Target audience	Key participants/ institutions	Date of visit
Yei River County	Yei Town Payam (consisting of 4 Bomas)	● Local communities (including women, youths, disabled; ● Local government institutions; ● Community based structures ● Local leaders and chiefs	● County Core Teams (CCTs); ● Payam development Committees (PDCs);	22-23 June, 2022
Melut	Melut Town Hai Agok		● Boma Development Committees (BDCs);	21-23 June, 2022
Raja	Raja Town Hai Dari Hai Lamba		● Boma Appeals Committees (BACs) ● Relief and Rehabilitation Commission (RRC); ● Local leaders and chiefs	21-22 June, 2022

Advance notices were sent by MAFS to the County Commissioners in the three Counties to inform them of the planned stakeholder consultations which were to be carried out by UNOPS on behalf of MAFS. Copies of the notice letters are attached in Annex 10.4.

Among the key issues discussed during the consultative meetings with the various stakeholders included:
- Inclusion of more households especially those that have not benefited from previous projects;
- Inclusion of school drop-out (especially girls) who cannot afford school fees
- Need for timely selection of LIPWs, distribution of tools as well as support with inputs such as seeds/ seedlings for agricultural related projects;
- Transfer Value is small/insufficient due to increase/rising of commodity prices in the market; the beneficiaries also raised issues about the transfer value that they said was low compared to the rapid rising of prices of goods in the markets.
- Need for timely distribution of payments;
- Inclusion of more widows as the number of widows due to past wars is high
- Provision of irrigation / water solutions to support agricultural subprojects
- Lack of materials to fence the farms hence animals destroying the crops;
- Lack of pesticides to prevent pests from destroying crops;
- Lack of monetary incentives for Oversight Committees; this issue is one of the major issues raised by the oversight committees. Majority of them have become reluctant to perform their roles in the project because they are not being motivated hence difficulty running out project activities;
- High beneficiary vulnerability level in the country; there are still a lot of very vulnerable households who were not registered under SSSNP in all the three counties visited. This is mainly because the number allocated was not sufficient to cover all the vulnerable households;
- Drought and Floods affecting LIPWs especially agriculture.

Below are some of the photographs captured during the stakeholder consultations in Yei River County, Melut and Raja

Figure 4.1: Some of the Photos of Yei River county stakeholder consultations

Figure 4.2: Some of the Photos of Melut County stakeholder consultation

Figure 4.3: Some of the Photos of Raja stakeholder consultation

In addition to the above, extensive meetings and consultations have been carried out throughout SSSNP implementation, field visits, rapid social assessment exercises and assessment of mitigation measures with various stakeholders, including beneficiaries, community leaders, government actors, and local project teams. The representatives of the NAC and NTC as well as the UNOPS PIU consulted stakeholders in all the areas where the SSSNP was implemented during project implementation visits

Findings based on interviews with beneficiaries, government actors and project teams included:

- Ethnic conflicts still exist among tribes like Murle, Dinka, Nuer etc. The conflict is characterised by child abductions, cattle raiding, fighting leading to loss of life, property and displacement of people;
- Hunger and starvation still persists and wages earned are used for basic needs like food, clothes, medical care and school fees sometimes but cannot have surplus for investment;
- Poor sanitation in the community, only a few latrines are available. The rest of people use open places, which makes the situation worse during rainy seasons;
- High disease burden among people that include (Malaria, typhoid, Hepatitis B, HIV/AIDS, TB, and Cholera) malnutrition in children and this is worsened by food and nutrition insecurity.
- Inaccessibility to health services due to both physical and non-physical factors. The physical barriers include flooding and poor roads. The non-physical factors include ethnic conflicts and political conflicts that persist;
- Low morale of Workers as Government salaries are very low and delay, hence absenteeism and

late coming at work;
- Lack of irrigation infrastructure to carry out farming during dry seasons.
- Land belongs to communities as the Land Act has not been approved and this makes making decisions on land matters complicated;
- Orphans and widows in the communities who cannot meet daily basic needs;
- High number of cases of GBV (Women consulted reported high cases of gender-based violence that involve early marriages (mostly done to get bride price), polygamous marriages leading to family and child neglect, beating of women by men, rape cases, abduction, kidnapping of women for marriage.
- Natural disasters like drought, floods affect agriculture and movement of people.

The findings have been taken into account in project design, but have also pointed out risks, for which mitigation measures have been developed (see below). The main risks addressed include the high conflict potential between communities, high risks of SGBV, health management issues, communal land ownership.

Key recommendations by beneficiaries, government actors and project teams included the following:
- Undertake awareness on issues such as drought as a result of climate change. It was reported that the effect of climate change was not being understood by some communities that resulted in the killing of traditional rainmakers in such communities.
- Engagement of the youth in the project areas into other sustainable income generating activities helps to reduce the practice of charcoal burning because this practice is looked at as the easiest way of generating income for the unemployed youths.
- Continued sensitization of the farmers about the need to use improved seeds that produce high yields.
- Carryout sensitization and awareness on gender-based violence and early marriage.

5.0 SOCIO-ECONOMIC BACKGROUND OF THE PROJECT AREA

The population of South Sudan is estimated at 12.35 million people. South Sudan has a slightly higher male population (about 52 %) versus females (about 48 %). In terms of ethnic composition, there are 64 ethnic groups in South Sudan of which the Dinka, Nuer, Murle, Mundari, Anyuak, Jur chol, Shilluk, Toposa and Boya are the main agro-pastoralist groups. The agrarian groups include the Azande, Balanda, Moru, Baka, Mundu, Bari, Kakwa, Otuho, Madi, Lango, Acholi etc. A full list of ethnic groups of South Sudan is provided in annex 10.6.

South Sudan remains one of the least developed countries in the world. High levels of vulnerability arising from two decades of civil wars have forced a sizable proportion of the population to rely on humanitarian relief assistance to meet their livelihood needs. The Gross National Income per capita is estimated to be less than $90 per year. Key education and health indicators are among the lowest in the world. Infrastructure is virtually non-existent, and a public administration system has to be developed almost from scratch. Low levels of income and purchasing power, together with disruption associated with conflict and very limited infrastructure, have constrained economic activity and market development. The incidence of poverty has also worsened, from 44.7% in 2011 to more than 57.2% in 2015, with a corresponding increase in the depth of poverty (WB, 2015).

Inadequate transport infrastructure poses a major problem for movement of people and commodities within and between states. Although efforts have been made to rehabilitate some of the main trunk roads, the conditions of most of the main roads, especially in the wet season, hinder transportation of goods, particularly perishable products. High transportation cost is a disincentive to farmers in potential surplus production areas from expanding production. However, the situation of various socio-economic infrastructures and the livelihood conditions of the people of South Sudan have substantially changed since the signing of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA) in January 2005.

The livelihood system in South Sudan is predominately subsistence smallholder agriculture, among which about 12-15% of the population depends on fishing for their livelihoods (UNDP, 2012). Employment opportunities both in the public and private sector are few but are increasing due to urbanisation. Petty trading also provides a source of income for many households in the rural towns and around market centres. Livestock production also provides an important livelihood base for large groups of people but is hampered by disease and environmental degradation. The road network is poor and many areas of the country are not accessible by road, particularly in the wet season, which provides a major obstacle for marketing and commercialization of agricultural production. Poverty escalates during the dry season and in most parts of the country periods of 3-6 months per year of food deficit is common. During these periods, most families move around for income generation, i.e. selling of charcoal, doing casual labour etc.

5.1 Economic Outlooks and Macroeconomic Performance

The country's economy has essentially declined after the 2016-armed conflict. According to the World Bank, it depends on crude oil, which accounts for 90% of government revenue and 60% of GDP. The crude oil made up 95% of total exports from South Sudan in 2016. Oil production is considered the key for economic growth in the short and medium term.

Exports of goods and services in terms of GDP declined due to the 2016 crisis. A World Bank economic brief estimates that the economy contracted by 3.5% during 2018 due to mismanagement and conflict. Due to conflict and economic shocks, the economy had negative GDP growth for five of the past seven years. Inflation has left food prices high. The cost of the minimum expenditure basket increased during the economic crisis caused by the 2013 and 2016 conflicts. Foreign investment has been volatile due to the conflict situation.

South Sudan ranks 185 out of 190 economies, and 178 out of 180 (together with Syria and only topped by Somalia) on Transparency International's Corruption Perception Index 2018. The World Bank estimates that if the peace agreement is respected, and conflict does not reoccur, the economy should grow by 1.8%; if it is not respected and conflict reoccurs, growth may only reach 0.3%.

5.2   Human Development
South Sudan ranks 186 out of 189 countries on the Human Development Index; with a score of 0.413that it is below the average of countries in Sub-Saharan Africa (0.541) and countries in the low human development group (0.507). South Sudan has further one of the world's worst health indicator outcomes globally. The maternal mortality ratio is 2054 per 100 000 births, and the mortality rate of children under five is 105 per 1000 live births (WHO, 2014 - 2019). 261,424 children are estimated to be severely malnourished. Life expectancy at birth is 58 years for men and 60 years for women. Seven million people in South Sudan are in need of humanitarian assistance, and 1.74 million are internally displaced, with 2.47 million refugees.

The conflict situation further undermines any attempts of establishing sustainable services or simply delivering health and other services. For example, a World Bank study shows that there is perceived non-neutrality in service delivery across areas held by the government or opposition forces, as well as limited oversight and ability by the government to provide satisfactory justification and evidence of supplies, drugs, and services arriving at their intended destinations.

The South Sudanese population has very limited access to healthcare facilities, with only 44% of the population living within a one-hour walk of a medical centre. This adds an extra burden on those in need of medical attention as the majority of the population has to walk for an extended time to reach a medical centre. During a time of civil unrest, travelling for an extended period comes with increased exposure to the risk of ambushes and looting. Another major challenge outlined by the United Nations Children Fund (UNICEF) is poor road infrastructure, resulting in the need for costly charter flights to transport medical supplies to many areas of the country.

The U.N. emergency aid coordination body, OCHA, reports that South Sudan has 1,900 medical centres as of 2017. However, only 400 of these centres are fully operational. Many of the healthcare facilities throughout South Sudan experience shortages in trained staff and supplies, making it difficult to provide treatment to the patients that make it to the facility.

The limited access to healthcare facilities and medical supplies in South Sudan results in a high number of preventable deaths. Among the top causes of preventable deaths are severe malnutrition and maternal mortality. Additionally, there are high rates of tuberculosis, HIV/AIDS, malaria and diarrheal diseases in the country.

Education in South Sudan has been similarly undermined by displacement, hyperinflation, civil conflict and food insecurity. The average duration of schooling is 4.8 years. According to a UNICEF report, 2.2 million school-aged children across the country do not attend school and 70% of primary teachers are untrained or under qualified, impacting the quality of learning. In conflict-affected areas, schools remain largely closed or armed groups or IDPs often occupy school buildings.

According to the Ministry of General Education and Instruction's Education Needs Assessment (2021) there are 5382 schools of which 802 are Early Childhood Development Centres (ECD) with a three years system, 3,762 primary schools (1-8 grades), and 297 secondary schools (9-12 grades) across South Sudan that were open. The ministry estimated that 23.1 % of these schools learn under trees/ open air classrooms or under tents. The country has only 5 public and 6 private universities.

5.3   Social Structure
South Sudan consists of a broad variety of ethno-linguistic groups. Those entail three sub categories of speakers of the Nilo-Saharan language family:
i.   speakers of *West Nilotic* languages (Dinka, Nuer, Atuot);
ii.   speakers of *Western Nilotic / Luo* languages (Shilluk, Annual, Maban in Upper Nile and Ethiopian borderlands; Acholi in Eastern Equatoria; and Jur-Luo in Western Bahr el-Ghazal); and
iii.   speakers of *Eastern Nilotic* languages (Eastern and Central Equatoria: Bari, Lotuho and Teso).
Furthermore, there are speakers of the *Niger-Congo* language family, including the Zande in Western Equatoria.

For pastoralists, such as the Nilotic Dinka, Nuer and Atuot the search for pasture shapes most of their socio-cultural life. They may migrate from homesteads on high grounds in the wet season to mobile **cattle** camps on the dried-out swamps in the dry season. Similarly, systems of exchange are based on social connections established through marriage rather than open markets.

Farming communities, on the other hand, present a settled lifestyle. This usually goes along with central authority and/or hierarchical leadership structure, such as kingdoms or provincial chiefs (the latter were often initiated by foreign rulers). For example, early accounts of the Zande kingdom around Yambio showed state-like elements, such as tribute paying, taxation or the death penalty. Both the Shilluk and Anuak (Luo speakers) had symptoms of sacral kingship, which differed from the secular authoritarianism of the Zande state.

In some cases, 'traditional' authorities were established by the local government in order to act as intermediaries for taxation, labour mobilisation, and other forms of coercion. There needs to be a careful contextual analysis before entering a new area to create understanding about the actual representativeness of 'traditional authorities' for a community. Alongside these instated authorities existed other and older forms of authorities, which were based on local concepts of origin, power and authority. Many of the different forms of social structures in South Sudan are therefore based on the kinship concepts of a 'segment' or a lineage. Wealth is still a major marker in the social strata and the size of cattle herds – among the pastoralist societies - is a significant indicator for wealth.

'Civil society', is in nascent form in South Sudan, as most people belong to communities defined by lineages. Markets, on the other hand, are developing and most societies have been militarised. Literature mostly treats 'civil society' as organisations that are dependent on donor support.

Furthermore, it is important to understand that ethnic groups can be heterogeneous. As different experiences in the recent civil war have shown, those differences can even occur in the same localities. Many of the recent clashes have taken place in an intra-ethnic manner, such as among Nuer clans in Unity State.

5.4   Formal and Informal Governance Structures

After a general agreement in the 2005 Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA) that governance in South Sudan needs to be decentralised, the 2009 Local Government Act decentralised and devolved decision-making powers from the national level to the states, to county and sub-county (Payam) levels and to Bomas. County commissioners and county legislative councils are elected representatives. Participation at the county level in decision-making fora must therefore be as inclusive as possible, representing the different interest groups at the Payam level. At the county level citizens' development committees are formed for this reason. However, since 2011 many powers have been moved back to the central level in order to create a strong executive government model. Furthermore, the states also exercise a significant amount of power as they appoint state governors and control resources.

In 2015 the national government decided to form an additional 18 states to the existing 10 states. It added another 4 States in 2017, making it a total of 32, from an initial number of 10 at the signing of the CPA (2005) and independence (2011).

Traditional authorities, in their various forms, have been integrated into local governance structures in order to improve service delivery, access to justice and eradicate poverty. The Local Governance Act deals with the distribution of powers between county, Payam and traditional leaders. Chiefs can be elected conventionally or according to traditional practice. However, in addition to the fact that many traditional authorities historically had been appointed and empowered by outside sources, their power was further eroded in the recent civil war. Massive displacement of populations saw new chiefs emerging, factions of the conflict appointed their own chiefs, and existing traditional chiefs often had to side with the dominant political and militant groups in a given area.

Other organisations outside of the government structures exist. These associations can include women's groups, youth or ethnicity-based urban groups, providing support systems for rural – urban migrants. However, especially youth groups can also turn into militant organisations at times. Town politicians can mobilise rural constituencies around ethnicities of clan lines for support. This is repeated at the national level, where there are general fears of domination of Dinka and Nuer influence in government.

5.5   Livelihoods, Labour and Employment

Livelihoods in Southern Sudan are largely influenced by the ecology of a region. For example, the Sudd swamps and southern clay plains with their waterlogged soils of the flood region of the Upper Nile and the eastern Bahr el-Ghazal are suitable for certain crops and cattle herding. Farming, on the other hand, is a prominent lifestyle in the waterlogged territory of the Nile's west bank, the Congo-Nile watershed and the forests of the border to the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC).

Livelihoods in South Sudan have therefore been relying on agricultural production, cattle rearing, fishing, gathering of wild foods as well as trade. Cattle have particular economic and cultural significance among some specific groups.

Livestock production also provides an important livelihood base for large groups of people but is hampered by disease and environmental degradation. Localised conflict is driven by politics, control of livestock,

cycles of retribution, competition over land and water resources. It is key to better understand the links between conflicts and livelihood before engaging in programming in a particular local context.

For example, in Jonglei State cattle raiding remains the primary reason for constraints to livelihoods through a decline in livestock ownership. Raiding was rampant in 2012-2013. Traditional cattle raiding became a commercial activity. Conflicts are directly about controlling grazing lands and access to water and ownership of cattle cultural aspects such as marriage, age sets, prestige and emphasising masculinity. But it was also about power and ethnic competition and cycles of revenge. This insecurity became the cause of poor livelihood outcomes. However, these social dynamics were overlooked as a cause of conflict. Livelihoods were severely stressed, but it was political disagreements and power struggles as well as unresolved leadership issues from the previous civil war era that led to the re-emergence of widespread violence in 2013.

In addition, the road network is poor and many areas of the country are not accessible by road, particularly in the wet season, which provides a major obstacle for marketing and commercialization of agricultural production. Inadequate transport infrastructure poses a major problem for movement of people and commodities within and between states. Although efforts have been made to rehabilitate some of the main trunk roads, the conditions of most of the main roads, especially in the wet season, hinder transportation of goods, particularly perishable products. High transportation cost is a disincentive to farmers in potential surplus production areas from expanding production.

While there are plenty of natural resources, grazing land, water, timber and oil, South Sudan is one of the poorest and least developed countries in the world. Conflict has constrained food production, trade and access to markets. Livelihoods have been largely destroyed in years of conflict. There had been a key assumption that after the civil war recovery would take off. However, this did not happen and the outbreak of renewed armed conflict in 2013 and continued local level conflicts constrained growth. Livelihoods have further been determined by rapid urbanisation, especially by youth and returnees; by influx of foreign workers looking for economic opportunities; and the limited capacity of major demands placed on the government. Employment opportunities both in the public and private sector are few but are increasing due to urbanisation. Employment in South Sudan is underpinned by low-productivity, unpaid work in the agricultural sector, with informal employment as the main source of income. Petty trading also provides a source of income for many households in the rural towns and around market centres.

Poverty escalates during the dry season and in most parts of the country periods of 3-6 months per year of food deficit is common. During these periods, most families move around for income generation, i.e. selling of charcoal, doing casual labor etc.

5.6   Land Issues

There are multiple customary tenure systems, as well as formal legislation regulating access and ownership of land. The Land Act of 2009 lists customary tenure as a legal form of land tenure. It allows communities to register their collective interests in the land.

There is insecure land tenure and widespread land grabs perpetrated by the military and certain government officials. For Community Driven Development (CDD) -type programming it is key to be aware of the various interests in land in the different counties, and the legitimate rights of the communities over the land.

A distinct set of land issues stems from returnees, who return to find their land occupied. Disputes can further arise from double selling of land, illegal occupation, military land-grabs, unauthorised building, and attempts to reclaim land without documentation.

The Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA) has further changed dynamics around land by bringing about incentives for communities to claim their own administrative units/land rather than encouraging them to share resources with neighbouring communities. The emergence of the state and a Land Commission has motivated communities to assert? their territorial claims.

5.7 Securities and Conflict Environment

In July 2011 South Sudan declared its independence from Sudan. However, conflict continued in different ways. In 2012, widespread intra-communal conflicts, including cattle raids and militia activity continued to divide the country and prevent peace and development. In December 2013 a civil war broke out in the northern parts and Juba, causing major displacement of people as well as increasing food insecurity. Continued cross-border conflict with Sudan further led to the exit of traders from Sudan, while insecurity also affected trade routes from Uganda. Due to rising political disputes, in 2016, conflict intensified and expanded to the southern parts of South Sudan, resulting in mass displacements to Uganda and Sudan and the closure of the Sudanese border. This period rendered over half of the total population dependent on humanitarian assistance. The government declared a state of emergency.

After five years of protracted civil war, a peace agreement was signed in September 2018, which was expected to reinforce a permanent ceasefire, create an enabling environment for the delivery of humanitarian aid and support reforms for social and economic reconstruction as well as the creation of a new transitional government of national unity by May 2019. Conflict has persisted since and little reform activities have taken place as the government has focused on security. This has severely hampered any positive development, including in the economic sector. As the World Bank economic brief describes, 'Peace and reconciliation are required to achieve macroeconomic stability and support a return to positive economic growth.' On February 22, 2020, a new Unity Government was formed that represented the key conflict parties, and Riek Machar was sworn in as the first vice president sealing the peace deal in Juba.

Conflict dynamics in the last five years have varied in the different areas of South Sudan and it is difficult to distil a common narrative. Different types of conflict prevail throughout South Sudan. Inter-communal conflicts are mostly based on tensions between pastoralist groups and relate to cattle raiding and competition over pasture; tensions between pastoralists and agriculturalists about land use/natural resources and tensions between neighbouring communities over administrative or communal boundaries (state resources). Added to these key types of conflicts are nowadays the spread of weapons, militarization of society following decades of civil war, strategies of warlords to mobilise support along ethnic identities, and the impacts of war on inter-community relations. These types of inter-communal, and not necessarily political, conflict can pose significant risks for project implementation, as it may temporarily destabilise a project area, and as it may fuel underlying tensions between communities, which can play out over development or aid resources.

Furthermore, since the signing of the CPA state resources have increased. That means, competition over those resources increases as well. Access to these resources is usually defined through a patronage system, including through membership in the government or army system. The weak government further exacerbates this phenomenon.

Another significant risk for conflict and insecurity is the increased formation of youth gangs, which is described in the section on youth below. These gangs are responsible for the rapid spread of criminal activity, which has begun to destabilise some areas of South Sudan. Criminality can similarly pose risks on project activity, for example where it heightens general violence or GBV crimes, or in the theft of people's assets.

South Sudan has been undergoing rapid urbanisation. This is where numerous ethnic groups come together, causing cultural change and disintegration. Tensions in towns emerge due to different social and economic strata rather than between members of different ethnic groups. However, others have observed that there are significant tensions between different ethnic groups in towns. In any case, this mix of society has led to the erosion of conflict resolution mechanisms usually applied within the group, while in some cases those mechanisms have been able to adjust, in many they leave conflicts unresolved.

The World Bank categorised the key features of the conflict in South Sudan as follows:

Geography of Violence	Since 2016, the conflict has spread throughout the entire territory, particularly the formerly peaceful Equatoria states, although some locations are more stable than others.
Multi-actor	There has been a proliferation of armed groups and a weakening of command and control, meaning power-sharing, security commitments, rule of law and access is uncertain
Control of territory	There are many different parts of the territory under influence of different groups; however, armed groups are not able to rigidly control territory or battle-lines.
Conflict at multiple levels	There are a number of different armed conflicts in the country – some relate to the fragmentation of the elites but many are local-level (e.g. over water or pasture resources)
Predation	Armed groups' prey on resources from either the local population, such as livestock, or from aid agencies such as food stocks, vehicles or equipment.
Seasonality	The pattern is for the main warring parties to slow down offensives in the rainy season, although at the local level skirmishes and banditry can increase.
Ethnic identity	There are some 64 different ethnic groups in South Sudan; ethnic identity is instrumentalized by elites and has become part of inter-group armed conflict, making it a critical factor for determining equity.
Gender-based violence	Gender-based violence at the hands of both armed groups and partners/family members has reached epidemic levels, affecting as many as 65 percent of women and girls with great impunity.

Conflict can lead to the cancellation of programming, which has happened in South Sudan. Such cancellation can have negative effects on those expecting assistance. The World Bank study on the cancelled 'Youth Start-up Business Program in South Sudan' researched youth grant recipients, and the impacts of the cancelation of the program due to the outbreak of violence in late 2016. It found a strong reduction in beneficiaries' trust levels. Some of the beneficiaries who experienced cancellation were also less likely to migrate, probably because they expected assistance.

It is therefore important that the Project maintains strong communication links to explain to communities why project activities may be cancelled. This can be done by targeting different population groups through different kinds of media, as laid out in the SEF. It will also depend on what type of communication may be possible in the case of conflict or on-going violence. For example, it is more likely that it is possible to transmit messages through the radio rather than organising community meetings.

5.8 Displacements and Integration

The conflicts in South Sudan have led to significant displacement of populations. Since 2013, over 1.9 million people (53.4% of them children) have been internally displaced in South Sudan. An additional 2.1 million have left the country as refugees. There has been displacement throughout South Sudan's conflicted history. Displacement has mostly taken place from the rural areas, where people are unprotected, to towns, where there is increased provision of services and humanitarian aid delivery. According to UNHCR South Sudan is hosting 1000s of refugees in Maban and Pariang Counties. They are mainly from Sudan. These Sudanese refugees came from Sudan. They are specifically Nubians from the Kordufans states. They fled into South Sudan because the Sudanese government accused them of supporting the Sudan People's Liberation Army/Movement North (SPLA/M - North).

The movement of populations complicates the appearance of a community and shifts the dynamics in a given place. Parallel administrative structures often develop where 'returnees' settle in a place.
Furthermore, displacement and returns put significant questions on the tenure, ownership and use of local lands. This is reflected in access and competition over scarce resources such as pastures, water, prime lands, social services and economic opportunities. The remaining insecurity therefore keeps populations mobile and often does not allow for new permanent settlements and for the reconstruction of livelihoods.

One coping mechanism that has developed is that people often split family members to assess situations on the ground and to diffuse risks. While part of the family remains in a camp, another part may explore returning to the rural community site. In addition, for many returning means to entirely rebuild their lives, as often all assets have been destroyed and resources lost. For some, houses have been completely destroyed or they are still occupied by others.

Furthermore, there are numerous ex-combatants among the returnees in South Sudan, which are not always easily accepted back into communities. Thinking about 'interest groups' in view of returnees and ex-combatants in the Payam in CDD-type projects is therefore important, as there is high risk that communities have diverse interests and do not all feel included and catered for.
In most areas of South Sudan returns are currently reported, although the numbers do not yet match the numbers of displacement. Many returns are partial in order to 'test the ground', while returnees retain strong connections to their families in refugee camps. Other returns are driven by the difficult conditions in displacement sites. Urban areas appear as a key transit point for returnees, given the availability of information, economic opportunities, and provision of services. Given the recent peace agreement in 2018 and the new unity government, increased returns are anticipated.

5.9   Gender-Based Violence

About 65% of women and girls in South Sudan have been the victim of physical and sexual violence at some point in their lives, with the majority of them experiencing it for the first time before the age of 18. In 33% of the cases, the violence was experienced during military raids from a non-partner while in 51% cases it was from an intimate partner. Early and forced marriage is another expression of GBV in South Sudan. About 52% of girls get married before reaching 18. This practice is also linked to poverty and on-going conflict. Many families receive a bride price, which makes men think of their wives as commodities and thus the wives lose the rights to speak up for themselves.

The patriarchal norms prevailing in South Sudan - especially among the rural population – are an expression of inequitable gender attitudes. South Sudanese women and men think that a husband is justified in beating his wife. The majority of men still agree that violence is justified in some of the following

circumstances: if a woman goes out without telling her husband, neglects the children, argues with her husband or refuses to have sex.

The culture of violence and impunity that has emerged from decades of conflict continues to provoke violent behaviour toward women inside and outside their home. Across the country, law enforcement services remain weak and police are under-trained and under-resourced. Aside from the Police Special Protection Units (SPUs) that handle SGBV, police are given little training on how to handle cases of GBV and for the most part, they have little knowledge of women's rights.

The economic downturn and loss of livelihoods caused by the conflict forced many women and girls to engage in sex to making a living. Even many female members of the armed groups report physical abuse or rape by fellow group members. Also, conflict and violence exacerbate the exposure and vulnerability of women to GBV. In particular, the proliferation of young male group gangs presents a high-level risk for women, as these groups target women and men in their attacks.

SEA/SH issues and domestic violence are unfairly kept confidential and are not openly discussed, which promotes a culture of silence around GBV) community and clan leaders are nearer to the people and hold high levels of trust with community members. However, most social and government institutions that handle sexual and domestic violence cases are male-dominated, which discourages women and girls from reporting for fear of retaliation or social ostracism.

5.10   Gender Dynamics

Statistics on WASH indicators are calculated relative to the population living in settlements where these indicators are available. 90% of IDPs in host-community settings and 94% of returnees live in settlements without gender-separated latrines, compared to 35.2% of IDPs living in camps and camp-like settings. Similarly, 71.4% of IDPs living in host community settings and 66% of returnees live in settlements where bathrooms / latrines cannot be locked from the inside, against 46.6% of IDPs living in camps and camp-like settings.

GBV, including early marriage, together with conflict, greatly affects women and girls' education. Secondary net enrolment rates are the lowest in the region at 6% for boys and 4% for girls. Similarly, only 18% of girls and 33% of boys complete primary education. Almost 31% of the schools have suffered attacks since 2013 and of all schools that were open since then, a quarter became non-functional by 2016.

Women often face inaccessibility to health facilities for fear of conflict-related GBV. Many survivors of GBV continue to suffer from the physical and psychological impact of violence, and report feelings of depression, hopelessness, anxiety, and suicide and have difficulty focusing, sleeping, and performing routine tasks. Existing health services across South Sudan offer inadequate medical and psychosocial support to survivors. According to CARE international, it was found that among GBV survivors, only 37% reported the incident to police or hospitals and received any psychological support.
GBV is a Critical issue for women during displacement and return. More than 4.5 million South Sudanese have been forcibly displaced inside and outside their country. Almost 90 per cent of the displaced are women and children. More than 1.8 million South Sudanese are internally displaced (IDPs). Data shows that more women are displaced and, on the move, than men, and up to 80% of displaced households are female-headed. Basic needs, insecurity and a lack of housing turn survival sex into a coping mechanism during displacement and return for women. Also, women and girls are exposed to GBV at IDP camps when sharing accommodation and bathing facilities with men and boys.

Conflict-induced displacement has also altered family structures and affected the livelihoods of South Sudanese households. With very limited or no access to livelihood or productive assets and isolation from

their kinship network, women face even higher levels of insecurity and marginalisation. At the same time, and depending on the nature of displacement, women may struggle to fulfil both traditional male and female roles within the family in the absence of male relatives.

5.11   Youth as a Vulnerable Group

Years of conflict have disrupted youth and their livelihood choices, including engagement in conflict and violence. In turn, farming, hunting and fishing are major modes of employment for youth. In urban areas, some youth operate some form of businesses. In urban areas, there is a serious lack of opportunities, which forms the biggest constraint to livelihood security for youth. There is limited financial capital, education, relevant marketable skills and work opportunities. Many young people suffer from the lack of fulfilled expectations after independence. Many of their hopes and aspirations have not materialised. Aspirations of a modern lifestyle bring many young people into the urban areas. However, in urban areas they have to compete with more educated returnees and often fail to secure income.

Youth has largely been excluded from political life, including through the age-based systems of authority that prevail in some of South Sudan's ethnic groups. In these groups, 'age sets' are an important socio-cultural feature, which denotes formalised community groups in which members are of the same age. These go through the same stages of life together, often emphasised through rituals. Age seniority thereby underpins political and military structure as well, often defining young men as subordinate. This may have partly contributed to urban gang culture, and has made some young people vulnerable to recruitment into military services.

Another reason for youth violence has been the government's inability to provide security. With the eruption of conflict in 2013, different ethnic and youth militia emerged such as the White Army, Gelweng and others. Those groups were established to protect communities, where there was no state protection.

Post-conflict and conflict situations have further interrupted the ability of young men to establish financial independence and to start a family. This has left them in circumstances where they are more prone to engage in violence as a form of empowerment. Violent conflict produces 'militarised masculinities', which in South Sudan is closely connected to underlying values around cattle raiding - a distinct cultural feature of some ethnic groups. The lack of ability to pay dowries can contribute to decisions by young men to engage in militias or cattle raids. This also means that politicians and military leaders have easy game to recruit young men for their purposes.

A World Bank study on youth education found that there is a lack of capacity in Ministries, NGOs and youth organisations to meet the challenges of engaging youth in high quality education programs. At present, a mix of secondary education and Accelerated Learning Programs exists across the country with mixed quality. Both institutional and capacity building supports are required to remedy the situation, including a focus on the incorporation of socio-emotional and psychological capacities. Linking sites and services, including in youth centres through sports, drama, media and other elements, can strengthen youth programs. Youth participation can further help investments and general programming. The report further found that there is a general lack of trust between youth and the government. Youth organisations have emerged in difficult contexts.

5.12   Beneficiary Targeting and Conflict

The targeting of project beneficiaries in South Sudan is an important process, as it needs to reduce shocks, restore social cohesion, and integrate excluded groups – rather than drive local conflicts. In this complex environment, it needs to be understood who the most severely affected are, such as IDPs, youth, ex combatants, and others. At the same time, a delicate balance needs to be established by ensuring that political or ethnic groups are not left out, as that could further promote conflict. Methodologies for targeting in South Sudan will need to account for challenges of working in conflict.

Community tensions can undermine project activities in many ways. For example, the selection of beneficiary communities in the first place can be a highly politicised process; especially as government forces have played a partial role in the conflict of the last five years. If the government is seen in the driver's seat of selecting beneficiary communities, that alone can raise tensions. However, international organisations – often ignorant of key local dynamics –may also not be best placed in the selection process. This is especially the case as conflict dynamics have developed around different lines of identity and have taken many different shapes throughout the different areas in South Sudan.

Once beneficiary States, counties and Payams or communities are selected, interactions between project staff (who may be from differing local identities to the beneficiary community) and/or involvement of local government officials (often seen as partial in the preceding conflicts) pose risks of making beneficiaries fundamentally suspicious of project modalities and how resources are distributed, or how labour inputs, construction contracts and employment opportunities are designed and partners selected. he development and aid sector has become a distinct resource and provider of employment – in some areas the only one. This turns development resources and aid into highly desired 'goods', for which people may remain in IDP camps rather than returning to their home communities. And it may provide the only employment in the area, dominated by gatekeepers. Employment through development partners also standing for access and power over resource distribution. Access to resources in turn, can be an enabler for dominance in conflict. Elite capture of project resources is a serious risk with 'elites' occurring at different levels, either in the form of a distinct ethnic group, clan, or simply as a wealthy network in a town.

While elite capture of project resources needs to be avoided in any way, even more worrisome is the use of project resources in conflict. Consultations have shown how returnee and IDP dynamics have been politicised. There is a similar risk that project resources can be politicised and can be used by local government, politicians or military leaders and militias to dominate in conflict dynamics.

Local and regional conflict dynamics will further underpin cultural differences in areas where different groups with distinct cultures meet. For example, many areas, especially towns, can contain members of competing clans or competing ethnic groups. When these need to share resources, such as infrastructure (e.g. buildings or boreholes), conflict may ensue again. In addition, basic differences in cultural dynamics may bring up tensions where none existed, for example where a settled agricultural community decides to build a borehole, which may then be frequented by the adjacent pastoralist groups.

Another risk is the exposure of staff, either from other areas of South Sudan or internationals, to local conflict groups and to environments of insecurity, including GBV. This includes risks through the above-mentioned youth gangs or youth armed militias. Physical security of project staff may be compromised in different ways, especially as they can be seen as opponents in a conflict (e.g. representing the government or an opposed ethnic group or clan), or as they can be seen as having taken project resource decisions favouring the opponent group. Furthermore, staff may be threatened in advance in order to make decisions favouring certain groups.

Prevailing insecurity has also put female project workers at risk of GBV, including sexual abuse or rape. Experience has shown that even international female staff may not be fully secure, even in the capital Juba.

5.13 Demography

Accurate South Sudan population statistics are difficult to obtain, a fact that is probably not surprising when you consider that it only gained independence from Sudan on the 9th of July 2011, and is one of the world's newest countries. A 2008 census showed that the population of South Sudan was 8,260,490.

However, this figure is hotly disputed because the census was conducted by the Sudanese Government of the time and is believed by many to have been manipulated for political reasons.

6.0   POTENTIAL BENEFITS AND ADVERSE EFFECTS OF THE PROPOSED PROJECT

While some of the described ethnic groups in the project areas are larger in number than others, all of them fit at least some of the criteria defining 'Indigenous People' in the World Bank and United Nations Safeguard policies. Therefore, no particular stakeholders or beneficiaries can be singled out. Adverse effects are therefore not expected in relation to characteristics of a particular ethnic group, but are rather determined by issues such as gender, or power structures in the communities between and within ethnic groups. In particular, lessons from the previous project have shown that vulnerability inside communities can affect whether people can participate in and benefit from public works activities. This project therefore targets those who are most vulnerable and supports them with cash transfers.

This section presents an analysis of the potential benefits and adverse effects of the project to the communities. It is assessed that the potential positive impacts of the project outweigh the negative impacts.

6.1   Potential Positive Impacts

- The project builds skills and institutions that can encourage low-skill wage jobs in the future and create the basis for the future job-creation in the private sector;
- In addition, it can contribute to strengthening both central and local government capacity to deliver social protection services and improve the conditions of the poorest, moving away from NGO-led implementation and delivery of social protection services to strong involvement of the Government as the leading actor in designing and providing such services;
- The project can serve as a useful bridge between the humanitarian and development efforts and contributes to the graduation of the most vulnerable individuals and communities from aid dependency to self-sufficiency;
- Strengthening local level cohesion and fostering social unity through greater interaction and dialogue among diverse ethnicities in a community, utilizing participation in public works as a safe and neutral platform for bringing community members together;
- Spill-off benefits like capital to start small businesses (e.g. salon, kiosk) using savings for cash transfer and improved capacity to meet household essential needs like food, medical bills and school fees;
- Increased hope to meet essentials among vulnerable groups especially child-headed households, elderly and people with disabilities (PWDs);
- It is expected that improved community assets lead to better natural resource management, thereby contributing to climate adaptation this would also promote food security and livelihoods opportunities through group-based small-scale agricultural activities;
- Capacity building through soft skills and life skills training, promotion of savings groups, expansion of the financial literacy and WASH trainings, nutrition and early childhood development messaging, and psychosocial support, among others;
- Reduced criminality because people who used to be idle are involved in productive work.

6.2   Potential Social and Economic Impacts

6.2.1   Occupational Safety and Health: through the lack or improper use of personal protective equipment (PPE) and human error**,** injuries, loss of man-hours, infections, and increased medical bills can occur. It is crucial to provide appropriate PPE, as well as continuous reminders on how to use PPE, how to

use signage, and to provide continuous and strong supervision.

6.2.2 Social Ills: There are a significant number of social ills related risks like, beneficiary exclusion, which can lead to conflict; the obtaining of money under false pretence from beneficiaries by leaders; delayed payments leading to complaints and conflict; the destruction of property (such as crops) through slashing desilting of drainage channels; as well as issues of sexual harassment, GBV, including rape through impacts of the projects on gender dynamics and roles inside the household, but also through the large gathering of workers that can endanger the women of the locality. Most of these risks can be mitigated through clear communication of beneficiary selection and other project approaches and strategies, in locally appropriate ways; as well as through clear communication and implementation of a refined GRM and through a separate GBV mechanism (see below).

6.2.3 Encroachment on private and public land: The opening up/rehabilitation of rural feeder and urban roads, rehabilitation of school fences, and the establishment of compost sites may lead to encroachment or trespassing on privately used land. Such sub projects will only be feasible if land can be donated voluntarily as outlined above.

6.2.4 Land conflicts: Small-scale farming and agriculture activities, hand-dug wells, and water pans/haffir require land that is possibly claimed or owned by someone. However, given the communal ownership of the land tenure system in South Sudan, where local landlords and chiefs have the final say on voluntary land acquisition for community activities, the beneficiaries/community consult with the landlords and chiefs for the allocation of the land for the activities as well as for consent of all households currently using the land. It is furthermore not planned to take individual land for agricultural purposes, as the activities will be implemented on communal land allocated by the chiefs, and for which consent by all current land users has been obtained. Furthermore, for the voluntary granting of land, both the World Bank and MAFS require Voluntary Land Donation guidelines to be followed. A consent form has to be signed by all donors and users of the land. The Boma Development Committee, facilitated by MAFS during the selection of public works subprojects, will implement the guidelines. This approach has been successful in the previous project and will be strengthened by the new operations, ensuring consent of all stakeholders, including individual user households.

6.2.5 Equity Issues: In irrigation schemes, equity issues may occur over decisions on where water travels down, who receives water first and who receives it last. In regards to water harvesting and hand-dug wells, questions may arise who benefits from access to water. New access to water can create unwanted beneficiaries, where some benefit from charging for water. This is avoided by implementing water projects on communal land, allocated by the Chief. The water will be accessible by all community members who live permanently or temporarily in the catchment of the well; i.e. arrangements will also be made with pastoralists who would cross the area regularly.

6.2.6 Elite capture: The project runs the risk of undeserving beneficiaries as a result of influence by powerful members of society, which can lead to intra-communal and inter-communal conflict. Given the high conflict potential in most areas of South Sudan, elite capture of funds injected through external programs are a significant risk. This can be mitigated through solid conflict analysis and political economy analysis of each location that is newly selected for project implementation, through clear geographic and beneficiary selection guidelines that are communicated in appropriate ways to different social groups

(including illiterate populations etc.); and well-communicated GRM that circumvent reporting lines through local elites. Equally, all land donated will require consent by all user households.

6.2.7 Exclusion of nomadic pastoralists into the program components 1 and 2 (i.e. how can households who move regularly be integrated into the program). Learning from the experience of the current project, it was noted that a majority of the communities in South Sudan are pastoralists. However, although they are pastoralists, it's only the men who move to the cattle camps in search of grazing or water points. Women sometimes follow to collect meat or milk, coming back after a few days. The cattle camps are usually during the dry season when both water and grazing land become scarce.

To ensure participation and inclusion of the pastoralist communities' extensive mobilisation in the project, as well as aligning the project to their needs. This includes selection of the women who will always be home as beneficiaries, keep monthly cycles at 15 days to allow for the movement for the women who may need to go to the cattle camps at some point. During mobilisation, the issue of alternates will have to be made clear since this will be critical to reduce absenteeism on both works and payments. The project will also encourage sub projects which are aligned to the livelihood of the communities, in this case livestock rearing, where water points like water pans can be done to cater for the water needs of the animals.

6.2.8   Potential for conflicts: where public works activities bring together people from different ethnic groups or different social units, there is a possibility of conflict. This will be addressed through initial conflict analysis in each region prior to targeting and Public Works (PWs) selection. Conflict analysis will result in recommendations on how to mitigate potential conflicts, e.g. through the identification of the relevant local power holders that can be integrated in peace-making or conflict prevention (which may differ from region to region).

6.2.9   Destruction of / attacks on PW sites: Through the current project, it was noted as key to have strong beneficiary? ownership of the community? sub projects. This is achieved through robust community mass mobilisation and strong involvement of the community at all levels on the selection of subprojects. Once this is achieved, the risk of destruction or attack of subprojects is minimised or eliminated. Also, the fact that all the PW are community projects, there is very minimum risk of attack or destruction.

6.2.12 Lack of understanding of beneficiary entitlements: in order to prevent grievances that originate in a lack of understanding of entitlements and project selection modalities / beneficiary selection modalities, the project will implement a solid awareness and sensitization campaign through locally appropriate means (including local languages and media that are accessible by everyone and that have a broad reach).

6.2.13 Beneficiaries miss out on full collection of entitlements under Component 1 and 2: One of the key project processes are the mass mobilisation as well as continuous awareness raising on the different project issues. Included in those processes are a clear plan and mechanisms on which beneficiaries will be paid after each cycle. The project has also allowed beneficiaries to have alternates so that in the event that the beneficiary is not available, the registered alternate can collect money on their behalf. The project also does reconciliations after each payment, after which clean up payments are done for those beneficiaries who may have missed the payment. In the event that the biometric payment fails completely, exceptions for paying outside of the system are considered, although this will be the last resort. This is,

however, done to ensure that the beneficiaries receive their full entitlement.

6.2.13 Increased number of people coming into the area: **spread of communicable and waterborne diseases**: All public work activities entail bringing together many people from different villages, which may enhance the spread of communicable diseases. In order to counter the various types of communicable and waterborne diseases, community members will be educated about the importance of washing their hands before eating food, drinking of clean and safe water, and practising personal hygiene on and off site. Community members are also sensitized over HIV/AIDS preventive measures (i.e. use of condoms, including female condoms), safer sex education, and the need to treat any sexually transmitted infections in early stages as well as the need of undertaking HIV testing and counselling.

It is important to note that the project will not encourage migration of people from one area to another, which helps minimise the influx of people who may be infected with communicable diseases, and thereby reduces the chance of cases of new diseases within the project area. In addition to communicable diseases, opening up urban drainage channels and borrow pits and digging hand wells may also lead to increased cases of waterborne diseases. To mitigate possibilities of waterborne diseases, gravel borrow pit sites will be restored, all shallow and hand dug wells will be covered, and stagnant water within construction sites will be meticulously drained.

6.3   Anticipated social issues and proposed mitigation measures

A detailed implementation plan for the mitigation measures will be developed as part of the Project's Operations Manual.

Nature of Impacts	Activities for the impact	Proposed mitigation measures	Responsibility	Estimated Cost
Injuries, loss of man hours, infections, increased medical bills	Improper use or lack of PPE and human error	1. Provide appropriate PPE (planning) ensure it is included in bid documents 2. Provide continuous reminders to use PPE and use of signage (implementation) 3. Continuous supervision (implementation) Train beneficiaries in proper use of PPE and First Aid kit measures especially in LIPW services	MAFS, UNOPS, Group leaders, BDC, PDC	USD 45 000
Beneficiary exclusion, grievances of non-beneficiaries, lack of understanding of beneficiary entitlements, beneficiaries miss out on full	Beneficiary, subprojects selection and implementation Establish a functional grievance redress system for beneficiaries and	4. Awareness campaign on selection criteria (planning) 5. Implementation of transparent selection process (implementation) 6. Conduct Political Economy Analysis (PEA) prior to entering new project locations to understand and avoid	MAFS, UNOPS, Group leaders, BDC, PDC	USD 140 000

Nature of Impacts	Activities for the impact	Proposed mitigation measures	Responsibility	Estimated Cost
collection of entitlements	non-beneficiaries in the community	possible elite capture and ensure sub projects are community driven demands		
Lack of participation of women, youths and people with disabilities (PWD) and other vulnerable groups	Public works activities	7. Gender equality awareness through training, based on a general training manual developed by SSSNP. The proportion of male and female beneficiaries shall be balanced (planning) 8. Affirmative action in membership committees (implementation)	MAFS, UNOPS, CCT, PDC, BDC	USD 15000
Child labor	Public works activities	9. Awareness campaign on child rights, prevention of child abuse 10. Work badges to be carried during public works activities, stating beneficiary name, household, village, and age Inclusion of child headed HH under direct income support	MAFS, UNOPS, CCT, PDC, BDC	USD 150 000
Increased burden of care on women as men are reluctant about work since women get wages	Public works	11. Gender equality and gender sensitive recruitment for LIPWs and DIS beneficiaries	UNOPS, CCT, PDC, BDC	USD 15 000
Physical inability of PWDs, elderly and women to engage in public work	Public works	12. Work with local chiefs and county officials to identify and reach PWDs, widows and orphans through direct cash transfers to prevent discrimination (planning)	UNOPS, CCT, PDC, BDC, selection committees	USD 150 000
Society's denial of women to take on leadership responsibilities.	Public works	13. Awareness raising and inclusion of women in the project implementation committees such as NTC, CCT, PDC, BDC and Appeals Committees	MAFS, UNOPS, CCT	USD 10 000
Obtaining money by false pretence from beneficiaries by leaders (Leaders taking advantage of	Beneficiary selection and work days computation	14. Awareness campaign against fraudulent and corrupt practices on beneficiaries (planning) 15. Implementation of	MAFS, UNOPS, selection committees	USD 15 000

Nature of Impacts	Activities for the impact	Proposed mitigation measures	Responsibility	Estimated Cost
the beneficiaries and promising favours with payment economic)		transparent selection process (implementation)		
Loss of tools	Storage of tools and beneficiary selection	16. Provide proper store and security guards/ community police 17. Consistent and effective supervision (implementation)	Group leaders, BDC, PDC	USD 15 000
Destruction of property such as crops	Slashing and land clearance for tree seedlings nursery, and other selected LIPWs activities	18. Minimize or avoid unless with explicit permission in writing (implementation). Limit work within the area screened by the E&S team	MAFS, UNOPS	USD 10 000
Sexual harassment and violence from PW employees towards vulnerable beneficiaries / community members	Sharing of tasks, people gathered for public works	19. PW signing off on work norms / ethical conduct of conduct, confirming reception of information 20. Strong communication/ mobilization around zero tolerance to sexual violence (planning) 21. Dismissal of abusive PW members who engage in PSEA, sexual harassment, GBV 22. Anonymous reporting modality directly to UNOPS, allow whistle blowing (implementation) 23. Linkage to service providers and functioning justice authorities or institutions for redress (implementation) based on request/consent by the survivor.	Group leaders, BDC, PDC	USD 100 000
Violence from PW beneficiaries against each other due to misunderstanding, use of obscene language,	Public works activities instructions for work, communication among team members,	24. PW signing off on adherence to ethical code of conduct with implementing partners in their respective location (implementation) 25. Strong communication of zero tolerance to sexual violence	Group leaders, BDC, PDC	USD 15 000

Nature of Impacts	Activities for the impact	Proposed mitigation measures	Responsibility	Estimated Cost
mockeries or anti-social behaviours	division of work	(planning) 26. Encourage grievance redress mechanism; suspension of PW if violence erupted among beneficiaries. 27. Anonymous reporting modality directly to MAFS (implementation) 28. Linkage to functioning justice authorities or institutions for redress if the GRM process is not satisfactory to the complainant (implementation)		
Misconduct among project staff towards beneficiaries and communities and vice versa	Public works	29. Adherence to ethical code of conduct (implementation) as part of staff contracts 30. Strong communication of zero tolerance against GBV, SH, PSEA (planning) 31. Disciplinary measures on staff involved in gross misconduct 32. Anonymous reporting modality, whistle blowing directly to UNOPS (implementation) 33. Linkage to functioning justice authorities or institutions for redress (implementation)	MAFS	USD 15 000
Domestic violence from spouse(s) or siblings against a member of LIPW	Utilisation of money earned from the project, time women/men or a HH member may spend outside of HH away from their usual duties can lead to domestic conflict	34. Boma-level awareness raising of the benefits of participation in LIPWs (planning) 35. Training of Boma representatives to respond to domestic issues in a non-gender biased manner (planning); training provided by IPs based on training manual developed by SSSNP 36. Linkage to service providers and functioning justice authorities or institutions for redress	MAFS	USD 45 000

Nature of Impacts	Activities for the impact	Proposed mitigation measures	Responsibility	Estimated Cost
		(implementation) based on request and consent by survivors.		
Delayed payment leading to complaints and conflict against IPs or payment agents	payment of beneficiaries using the biometric records; verification of beneficiaries IDs/ names	37. Timely payment 38. Communication / awareness campaign of payment mechanisms (planning) 39. Submission of reports to Money Transfer Agent, Implementing Agency and World Bank (implementation)	UNOPS, Payment Agent, MAFS	USD 15 000
Land grievances and conflicts	Road works, cleaning of public places and farming; land donation for project work.	40. Awareness campaign on ld donation for project work (planning) 41. Conduct assessment of land use and land conflicts 42. Proper acquisition of land following guidelines on voluntary land donation for project use (implementation) 43. Consultations of beneficiaries and communities with landlords and chiefs for the allocation of land (planning) 44. Signing of lands consent document following voluntary granting of land (planning)	MAFS, UNOPS, PDC, BDC	USD 12 000
Equity issues around water sources	rehabilitation of Water sources such as wells; access to and utilisation of water	45. Implement water projects on communal land, allocated by the Chief (planning) 46. Ensure that a water source is accessible by all community members who live in the catchment of the water source (planning)	MAFS, UNOPS. PDC, BDC	USD 120 000
Conflicts during sharing of produce after harvesting from LIPW	Agricultural sub projects such as tree seedlings, vegetable gardens management/ harvesting	47. Put in place procedures of produce sharing (to be developed by implementing partners) and communicate to beneficiaries before they start on work (planning)	UNOPS, IP, BDC, PDC	USD 130 000

Nature of Impacts	Activities for the impact	Proposed mitigation measures	Responsibility	Estimated Cost
Spread of diseases	Group work, many people gathering one location	48. Sensitization on preventing common diseases, moral behaviour in the workplace (planning)	MAFS.UNOPS, Group leaders	USD 15 000
Low latrine coverage	Public works, construction of temporary ventilated improved pit latrines	49. Sensitise communities on the importance of safe human waste disposal (planning) and other WASH issues 50. Partner with the County Government to develop a comprehensive WASH master plan (planning)	MAFS, UNOPS	USD 15 000
Ethnicity of project staff	Recruitment of project staff in the participating counties of the project	51. Ensure equitable and representative project staff recruitments who can speak, read and understand local languages without compromising merit (planning)	MAFS, UNOPS	USD 7000
Exclusion of nomadic pastoralists in the project due to their mobile nature	Public works and cash transfers	52. Registration of women who will be at home(do not go to cattle camps).	UNOPS, MAFS	USD 15 000
Conflict at public works sites due to different social groups	Public works; social interaction/ interpersonal and multicultural relations at a workplace	53. Implement initial conflict analysis prior to project implementation (planning) 54. Identify and work closely with local power holders who have the capacity to prevent or solve social conflicts – identified through the conflict analysis (implementation)	MAFS, UNOPS and CCT	USD 30 000
Destruction of and attacks on PW sites	Public works, new interests on land selected and improved under LIPW,	55. Proper mobilization and sensitization of community driven demands as "common good". Selection of community owned projects	UNOPS, CCT	USD 15 000
Unintended Encroachment into archaeological or cultural sites	excavation procedure in public works	Apply the Chance Find Procedure where cultural items are discovered in project sites	UNOPS, CCT, Contractor	TBD

7.0   GRIEVANCE REDRESS MECHANISM

World Bank research has shown that it is key to give stakeholders a voice, address grievances as early as possible, that there is no 'one size fits all', and that no reported grievances does not mean that no grievances exist (World Bank, RAI KN 19). This is why tailored grievance redress mechanisms are crucial for most projects.

Grievance redress mechanisms (GRM) refer to institutions, instruments, methods and processes by which a resolution to a grievance is sought and provided. The GRMs provide an effective avenue for expressing concerns and providing redress for communities and individuals. Grievances and disputes may arise at several stages of project planning and implementation or may be a result of conflicts between groups affected by the project.

Through the previous project, a grievance redress mechanism has been implemented, with structures that start from the group level to the Quarter councils, Payams and community support teams at county, state and national levels. It has provided the beneficiaries a platform for airing their views and has helped reduce grievances given the large number of people involved and the high levels of vulnerability and ethnic tension.

However, during consultations there was a general feeling of helplessness among the beneficiaries with regards to channelling grievances and their complaints for redress through the Appeals Committee (AC). A section of beneficiaries felt not helped by the AC. Beneficiaries complained about lack of action on their issues. Also, the distance to the appeals committee offices to report their grievances was considered a key hindrance to accessing redress.

Recommendations to strengthen the GRM therefore include:

- Engage a consultant to provide enhancement of the Grievance Redress Mechanism. In order for AC to function, provide lunch and transport every month;
- Enable the AC to sit every month and if necessary move to the communities instead of communities always looking for them;
- Provide ACs with skills of handling cases;
- Having engagements of only women groups in order to ensure that they freely express themselves;
- Establishment of focal points within beneficiary communities to identify and respond to issues of gender-based violence (GBV) and other issues; trained by UNOPS so as to ensure that they are fully equipped to execute their duties.
- Provide toll free lines at UNOPS for beneficiaries to report any grievances;
- MIS to include mechanisms to do monthly analysis of GRM (% of grievances received, resolved, referred and pending);
- A forum at state level, e.g. a task force or an already existing technical committee that is given the mandate to handle grievances;
- MAFS shall have functional Memorandum of Understanding with the states and counties in which they operate, which would stipulate the undertakings of the state and MAFS;

- There should be a mechanism to monitor the compliance to the MoUs by the National Government.

It is recommended that the above points be incorporated in the enhancement of the GRM, as envisioned under the project, prior to sub-project activities. Throughout the project lifecycle, a continuing enhancement based on lessons learned by the GRM should be implemented. GBV issues, however, should be separated out and handled through a different mechanism.

Given the country context, the project design, and lessons learnt, some general principles for the redesign of GRM emerge. For example:
- the provision of multiple grievance channels (hotline, suggestion boxes, grievance focal persons etc.) allows an aggrieved party to select the most efficient institution; and
- accessibility and timely response of ACs is crucial, circumvent partial stakeholders, and the ability to bypass channels that are not responsive.
- the GRM should be rapid, confidential, independent, transparent, and protect witnesses and complainants.

For the first stage of the GRM value chain, it will be important to provide sufficient information on project modalities through awareness campaigns, as well as access to technical assistance for those who are aggrieved to help them understand whether their grievance is appropriate and provide advice on the adequate address through their local leaders. Information campaigns should be launched via radio in order to respond to high illiteracy rates. Following that, a grievance report should be address to a single institution, and means of reporting should allow multiple challenges - oral, via letters, drop boxes or a phone call. Once the grievance is received, the respective institution should acknowledge it and a decision has to be taken whether it is to be processed locally or not. It then needs to be investigated by the adequate institution; and appeals mechanism provided. Feedback of the investigation and its results to the complainant are key in order to resolve? a grievance.

GBV issues and their proposed handling are mentioned in the below diagram, but their handling is separated out and does not follow the proposed GRM flow. The GBV handling process is described in section 8.

7.1   Grievance Redress Mechanisms Process flow

Step of GRM	Function	Actors	Comments
Assess and Clarify	Mechanism available to help aggrieved persons assess if grievance is warranted.	<u>For Project Beneficiaries:</u> -Elected focal person / secretary of appeals committee - The Secretary ACs should ask if the complainant has already complained directly to the implicated committee or institution and if not should encourage the complainant to do so before lodging a grievance with the Quarter Appeals Committee - Clear communication / information provided by the SSSNP - PCU Project Director	Prerequisite is a thorough information campaign for communities and Project Staff on modalities of project, project priorities and budgets.
Reporting	Depending on the type of grievance and the person aggrieved – institutions receive reports of grievances.	• Most grievances and complaints will be received and recorded by the elected focal person/ secretary of the appeals committee; • If other members of the QAC are approached by community members they should ask the member to make sure they direct their grievance to the focal person to ensure that it is recorded properly. However, if there are good reasons not to report to the focal person, the grievance should be reported to the State level project team or UNOPS project management team (PMT). • Any GBV or sexual harassment complaints should be directly reported to the SNSOP Project Manager or the PCU Project Director without disclosure of confidential, private	By being able to report directly to the State Level project team or the PIU, a complainant has the option to choose between alternative addresses. Grievances that relate to the government, but not directly to the project can be passed to the respective government office with a copy to the project (SNSOP PMT). The telephone number for the GBV hotline will be adequately distributed at the local level, with a focus on reaching

		information of the survivor or details on the case that could lead to the identification of the survivor. A specific telephone hotline will be put in place for this purpose, administered by a UNOPS Country Office HR person. Further details on GBV see below. • Complaints and grievances can be submitted in writing or if the complainant cannot write he or she can make it orally. If it is done orally, the focal person must record this complaint in writing and read it back out to person lodging the complaint or grievance	the most vulnerable populations and all women. Grievance mechanisms will be introduced through awareness campaigns in the beginning of project implementation, and posters in the communities will provide access information throughout the lifespan of the project
Acknowledge and Follow-Up	Rapid acknowledgement and follow-up are important in order to prevent conflicts. The officer who received the grievance has to decide where it should be handled. Some grievances should be solved locally, while others must not.	The Appeal Committee should meet either periodically or as required to discuss and decide how to address the complaints and grievances received. At the meeting the focal person should present the grievance to the Committee for review and action; At the meeting the focal person should present the grievance to the Committee for review and action. The appeal committee should check whether the complaint is a perception only or whether there is a case of real unfairness and inconsistency in the implementation of the project and decide on the authority to which the appeal should be directed for redress; Depending on the type of grievance, it should be directed to the appropriate channels. For example, while transparency	Grievances reported that relate to community dynamics outside project procedures, should not simply be passed back. Complainants may have deliberately circumvented 'traditional' conflict resolution institutions. If conflict management is required to address the grievance, project structures (committees and PMT) should cooperate with neutral personalities to facilitate the formation of a 'Special Baraza' (group of neutral and respected individuals that will manage the conflict). Special Barazas have the advantage that grievances are solved locally where possible, using local structures, but still circumventing those

		issues, elite capture issues, or issues of beneficiary exclusion should be handled by the project, the committee should also involve local leaders to handle possible conflict in the community	social structures that may be part of the grievance. They can be given powers to recommend punishment. Members should be selected on an ad hoc basis to avoid individuals manipulating the members.
		If the committee assesses the grievance cannot be resolved at the Quarter Council level, the AC should forward the case to the BDC, and MCT and seek a solution.	
		Local solutions can be found for: - -Intra community disputes over project sites or decision-making processes; - Local disputes that do not concern violations of project; - Disputes that arise after project completion.	The Appeals Committee may be supported in meeting space, transport and food costs by the project, as appropriate
		• Non- local redress: (where project staff or local government officers are involved, or where accusations of fraud and corruption are made)	
		UNOPS PMT: Grievances reported to focal point are registered and forwarded to the committee for investigation;	
		Government: Grievances regarding the government and not the project should go through government channels;	
Verify, Investigate and Act	Once grievance reports have been forwarded to the appropriate address within project structures, grievances need to be verified, investigated and acted up.	The Appeal Committee investigates and acts upon grievances that it does not pass on. - UNOPS PMT: Project Manager investigates and acts upon a grievance report. Reports from project beneficiaries or from the government. Staff that have been passed to the PMT are investigated by the Project Manager. - Appeals: Appeals against decisions of the Appeals Committee are filed directly at the PCU. Appeals against decisions taken at the PMT can be filed with the PCU Project	Investigation officers of the appeals committee have to act rapidly and have the capacity to set sanctions and punishments; Investigations are described, logged, and filed with the results / outcomes of the case;

		Director.	Complaints are treated confidentially. Complainants and witnesses are protected;
		- In cases of GBV that have been reported to the hotline, PCU and UNOPS Country Office will jointly investigate if agreed on by the survivor and led by a respective GBV Focal Persons to be included by UNOPS. A zero-tolerance policy towards sexual harassment will prevail. Where project staff is involved, disciplinary measures have to be taken. Harassment and GBV actions by beneficiaries and other stakeholders will lead to immediate suspension from any project activities or benefits. Legal measures have to be considered. Further details see below	Decisions are transmitted in a transparent manner. The target time for responses to grievances should not exceed 48 hours
Monitoring and Feedback	Grievance reports, case logs and investigation results are registered and filed by the respective officers. Feedback is provided to the complainant and all aggrieved parties against every complaint received, in order to inform on the results of the investigation and show that the grievances were handled. Data on grievances should be used to refine projects/processes.	Filing of Data: - Focal person / appeals committee forward their data on grievances to the UNOPS PMT; - The M&E Officer in the PMT will file the case; cases relevant to possible alterations of project design/implementation will be forwarded by the M&E Officer to the relevant programme office with copy to the Project Manager; - The M&E Assistant will flag key issues that require project adjustment with the Project Management Team. - The Project Management Team will hold meetings when required to discuss alterations to project design, based on the M&E Assistance analysis of the grievance reports. Adjustments will be undertaken in a timely manner. - Government: Data on government related grievances that	

| | | have been passed to the government is shared with the respective Ministry.

- SGBV cases reported through the hotline will be treated with confidentiality directly by PMT and the MAFS Project Director and will be filed at the MAFS Country Office by the HR Officer, as well as by the PMT.

- Feedback: Depending on the confidentiality of the case, results can be posted on project notice boards, or can be transmitted through the local project staff or other adequate means – with copy to the relevant government Ministry | |

ADDRESSING GENDER BASED VIOLENCE

As noted above, South Sudan shows a high incidence of sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) and widespread impunity for SGBV offenses. Conflict-Related Sexual Violence (CRSV) remains a common tool used by all sides in the conflict, impacting not only women targeted by the violence, but also households and entire communities where these women reside. A large number of women report cases of rape, sexual assault, domestic violence, forced and early marriage, as well as sexual exploitation and abuse. SGBV affects mostly women, and girls but also men and boys. SGBV destroys family and community cohesion and undermines processes of reintegration and rehabilitation, impoverishing women and their families. The high prevalence of SGBV in the country heightens the risk of HIV for survivors. Access to health and counselling services for victims of rape and other forms of gender-based violence are extremely limited.

The Project may indirectly have some positive effects on the prevention of SGBV, as it provides better infrastructure and therefore lessens the risks of exposure to risks. The economic support provided by the Project may further contribute to lessen the levels of violence in communities and households. However, it is not expected that the Project is equipped to change this situation considerably in a positive way, and it will be essential that project activities are not further aggravating it. Key risk situations encompass targeting of project activities by conflict parties, sexual harassment by co-workers in PW activities, inter-communal conflicts resulting from joined PW activities, as well as impacts of the projects on gender dynamics and roles inside the household, potentially triggering SGBV.

Risks will be addressed by (a) awareness raising campaigns prior and throughout subproject implementation, (b) community consultations including FGDs with women, and (c) Codes of Conduct for PW participants as outlined above.

As a first step, the project will coordinate with UNICEF's Health and Child Protection Program and work throughout the project to improve the referral system, with progress noted in the quarterly progress reports. The Project will further pilot the training of GBV focal and referral persons; thereby taking into consideration principles of a survivor-centred approach and with active involvement and advice by international SGBV experts. The standard GRM committees are not considered appropriate to address SGBV cases; in case grievances related to SGBV are addressed to them, they will have to immediately refer the case to the noted project hotline without investigating the case.

While incidents shall be reported to the MAFS Project Director and the World Bank, reporting on SGBV cases shall be done (a) without disclosing details on the survivor(s) and (b) without details on the case from which it may be possible to identify the survivor. SGBV experts, who are able to identify and mitigate indirect consequences to the survivor(s) like stigmata and social exclusion, revenge, etc., shall conduct follow-up activities.

The Project will engage throughout the project lifecycle with WB and development partners GBV experts to further enhance understanding of interlinkages between this development project and SGBV and incorporate lessons-learned (amongst others from the planned WB GBV portfolio review) to mitigate noted risks and enhance opportunities to reduce the overall prevalence of SGBV in the project areas.

8.0 ANNEXES

ANNEX 8.1   FEEDBACK FROM STAKEHOLDER CONSULTATION IN RAJA

Republic of South Sudan
Western Bahr El - Ghazal State
Raja County H.Q.Rs
Commissioner's - Office

جمهورية جنوب السودان
ولاية غرب بحر الغزال – راو
محافظة راجا
مكتب المحافظ

Date: 21/6/2022   التاريخ :

Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security.

Ref: RSS/MAFS/US/J

To: OFFICE OF THE UNDERSECRETARY OF COOPERATIVE RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND ADMINISTRATION

THROUGH UNOPS RAJA OFFICE.

Accept our hamble greetings from Raja. We the Raja people really appreciate so much the SSSNP projects and we are very much pleased to hear the news of SNSOP as well. We duly welcome the project and will do all what it takes to see it a success in Raja County.

According to the letter we received from UNOPS office regarding new project (SNSOP) implementation for eighteen months (18), we the people of Raja under the leadership of the commissioner held a meeting with the different representatives of chiefs, RRC, CCTs, PDCs and other influential leaders. And below were what we came out with;

1. Brick laying at county level where by each neighborhood will participate and will be later handed to the county; this will support in other developments like building schools and health facilities that were destroyed during the war.

2. Creation of Agriculture association, this will strengthen communities' capacity on agriculture instead of depending so much on humanitarian aid.

3. Training women and youths on Small and Medium Enterprises and as well engage them in activities like plumbing, Tailoring and kneading plus others that can help them start up their own businesses and hence self-reliance.

4. Setup women associations in bomas support women in creativity and solving their issue, also, this will empower them on understanding their right regarding the gender equality.

5. As from the RRC's office, there has been a total of about (1,976) households ie 17,211 females and 18,316 male individual Returnees from Sudan who returned after the SSSNP beneficiaries registration and have therefore have not been registered and as a county we are requesting that these returnees should be registered as well since on return they need a lot of assistance. As seen in the letter we will be maintaining the current caseload and beneficiaries for SSSNP but we request that if the caseload will be maintained then we may need new registration so that the returnees are captured in as well and if there will be an increase in the caseload then it will cater mainly for the returnees.

ANNEX 8.2: PARTICIPANTS IN THE SA CONSULTATION PROCESS IN YEI RIVER, MELUT AND RAJA COUNTIES

Yei River County, Central Equatoria State			
No.	**Key Informant/ Participant**	**Title/ Institution**	**Location**
1.	County Core Team (CCT)	Local governance structure	Yei Town Payam
2.	Payam Development Committee (PDC)	Local governance structure	Yei Town Payam
3.	Boma Development Committee (BDC)	Local governance structure	Yei Town Payam
4.	Boma Appeals Committees (BACs)	Community members and representatives	Yei Town
5.	SSSNP Beneficiaries	Local community	Yei Town
Melut County, Upper Nile State			
1.	SSSNP beneficiaries	Local community	Hai Agok
2.	Community Supervision Teams (CSTs)	Local community members	Hai Agok
3.	Payam Development Committee (PDC)	Local governance structure	Melut
4.	Boma Development Committee (BDC)	Local governance structure	Hai Agok
5.	South Sudan Relief & Rehabilitation Commission (RRC)	Director	Melut County
6.	Local Chiefs	Traditional leaders	Melut
Raja County, Western Bahr el Ghazal State			
1.	SSSNP beneficiaries	Local community	Hai Lamba
2.	SSSNP beneficiaries	Local community	Hai Dari
3.	County Core Team (CCT)	Local governance structure	Raja County
4.	Payam Development Committees (PDCs)	Local governance structure	Raja County
5.	Boma Development Committee (BDCs)	Local governance structure	Hai Lamba & Hai Dari

6.	South Sudan Relief & Rehabilitation Commission (RRC)	Director	Raja County
7.	Boma Appeals Committees (BACs)	Community members and representatives	Hai Lamba & Hai Dari

Some of the Participants' Names and Signatures

Attendense
Pavment Sheet   Date: 21, 6, 2022.

S/#	Names	Organization		Title/Position	Phone Number	Signature
1	Deng chan Gueh	Hai Agok		BDC Chairperson	0914532 88	
2	Aluel Chol Ador	"	"	BDC Member	0915291881	
3	Aleer Ajuer Aleer	"	"	AC Secretary	0917723016	
4	Nyathan Qui Deng	"	"	Benefiary	0915384018	
5	Akuot Alam	"	"	Beneficary	0912282224	
6	Gisma Gedo Deng	"	"	Beneficary	0915291343	
7	Mary Phalp	"	"	BDC Member		
8	Nyakeny Lual	"	"	Beneficary	0917295876	
9	Nyagith Ngor	"	"	Beneficary	09	
10	Rita Simon	"	"	Beneficary		
11	Qeluia Albiene	"	"	Beneficary	0915472322	
12	Mary Nypach	"	"	Beneficary		
13	Perba Chol	"	"	Beneficary GT		
14	Nyalua Nuer	"	"	Beneficary		
15	Ayel Wol	"	"	Beneficary GT		
16	Martha John	"	"	Beneficary		
17	Nyanyik Makoul	"	"	Beneficary		
18	Nyannuer Quna	"	"	Beneficary		
19	Adza John	"	"	Beneficary		
20	Abul Bair	"	"	Beneficary		

~~Attendance~~
Payment Sheet

Date: 2, 6, 2022

S/#	Names	Organization		Title/Position	Phone Number	Signature
1	Nyape Deng	Aai Agok	Beneficiary GP			
2	Nyaman Bol	"	"	CSTa		
3	Ababug Duei	"	"			
4	Aweng Padiet	"	"			
5	Daniel Dut	"	"	" GP	0915292885	
6	Mayien Maker	"	"		0914744071	
7	Sebit James	"	"	CSTs	0918 805186	
8	Nyanruk Diing	"	"		0918 80414 44	
9	Chok Monyluel	"	"	BDC Secumtary	0915099012	
10	Guny Ackim	"	"	BDC Member		
11	Nyakung Ayrik	"	"			
12	Abuk Riek	"	"			
13	Ajok Aguiek	"	"			
14	Nyalok Majock	"	"			
15	Akool Ajang	"	"			
16	Lucia Jackson	"	"			
17						
18						
19						
20						

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Attendance
Payment Sheet

Date: 22 /6/ 2022.

S/#	Names	Organization	Title/Position	Phone Number	Signature
1	Bakita CHol monykuc	Unops	CST		RJ
2	Achwie CHol Konl	Unops	BDL		Aguil Kang
3	Ring lual Gumuel	Unops	CSt		
4	niYanuer malek Dau	Unops	Cst		Nym
5	Akoul CHoul Pajok	Unops	beneficiers		
6	John Thon lual	Unops	beneficiers		JOV
7	Abiby monytur Ahual	Unops	beneficiers		VW
8	niYabai Ayiik Aguer	Unops	beneficier		tt
9	Alek Agok mayom	Unops	beneficier		AHHE
10	Juliet Ahoul Nuer	Unops	beneficier		
11	niYagour niYok niZor	Unops	beneficier		
12	Niyuuur Konl CHol	Unops	APC		Nushry
13					
14					
15					
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17					
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19					
20					

Attendance
Payment Sheet   Date: 24/6/2022

S/#	Names	Organization	Title/Position	Phone Number	Signature
1	Deng Awer Arei	Payam AB PDC	Payam Admin	0914568209	
2	Ajak Awan Thon	BDC	Chief	0155506433	
3	Gau Ajak Angok	BDC	Chief		
4	Deng cho1	CCT	Labour director	0918662322	
5	Monyon Giir	CCT	Agriculture director	0914558124	
6	Wuor Deng	RRC	RRC Director	0914305028	
7					
8					
9					
10					
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ANNEX 8.3: SAMPLE MINUTES OF STAKEHOLDER CONSULTATION MEETINGS

No.	Name	ISSUE RAISED	PROPOSED ENHANCEMENT /MITIGATION MEASURE
1	Daniel Dut	- Delay of LIPW tools - Delay of payment	- Relevant tools should be made available before start of works; - Cash payment must be in time to motivate the beneficiaries
2	Gisma Gedo Deng	- Seeds not available - Cattel's issue such as goats and cows eating the crops in the garden. - Irrigation of land	- Seeds should be distributed to beneficiaries; - Farms should be surrounded with fences to prevent cattle from eating the crops; - Need to consider provision of hand pumps for water
5	Nyariak Diing	- Delay of payment - Increase of transfer value, because the things are expensive in the market	- Need to increase the amount of the money paid to the beneficiaries.
6	Cecila Albino	- Long LIPW Working Hours (4 hours)	- Consider reducing working hours to allow mothers to attend to their children.
7	Chok Monyluak BDC Secretary	- Need for irrigation - Tools and safety items. - Training	- Pumping of water to be easy - Tools and safety should be delivered before starting the work. - Training for education
8	Aluel Chol Aleer	- Payment of the committees.	- Payment for motivation during payment and meetings.
9	Guny Hakim	- Problem of pests and diseases.	- Pesticide should be provided for farming to be carried out smoothly.
11	John Thon Deng	- Period of project like 7 months does not solve the problems	- Increase of project period.
12	Akuol Chuol Pajook	- The number of targeted beneficiaries was very little.	- If the project is going to be extended then the number of beneficiaries should be increased.

13	Deng Awer	- Adding more agriculture activities. - Committees payments - Fixing of bridges/ culverts	- Including agriculture in the coming project. - Considering the committees payment - Fixing of bridges/ culverts
14	Ajak Awan	- Adding agriculture with tree plantings. - Budget for committees. - Registration of new beneficiaries	- Planting of Mangos, Lemon and other trees that have fruits. - Registration of new beneficiaries who were not registered.
15	Gau Ajak Angok	- Registration of unregistered beneficiaries. - Continuing in cleaning and agriculture. - Motivation of Committees.	- Registration of the beneficiaries who were not registered. - Continuing in cleaning and agriculture. - Payment of committees.
16	Monywir Adanga	- Adding of new beneficiaries. - Continuing in planting of trees. - Payment of committees - Grouping of beneficiaries for agriculture.	- Covering other Payams - Planting fruiting trees - Payment of committees to motivate them. - Group them per Fedan.
17	Monyjou Giir	- Covering the Payams that are not registered. - Collecting scraps Irions in Melut. - Payment of committees. - Planting of trees. - Using tractor for agriculture	- Registration of other Payams. - Payment of committees. - Hiring tractor for agriculture and group beneficiaries per padan. -
18	Wuor Deng	- Monthly Beneficiaries meeting with committees to address problems. - Community has benefited from UNOPS' payments. - Covering all Payams - Considering those who are displaced by flood. - Provide airtime to committees. - Budget for CCT, PDC, BDC and BAC.	- Scheduling monthly committees meeting with beneficiaries. - Covering the un-registered Payams. - Considering flood displaced residence. - Payment of committees.

ANNEX 10.4: GOVERNMENT NOTICES FOR STAKEHOLDER CONSULTATIONS IN YEI RIVER, MELUT AND RAJA

Republic of South Sudan
Ministry of Agriculture & Food Security
Office of the Undersecretary of Cooperative, Rural Development and Administration

Ref: **RSS/MAFS/US/J** ....

Date: June 14, 2022 ....

RE: To Commissioner of Yei

On behalf of Government of South Sudan (GoSS), the Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security (MAFS) wishes to introduce a team from UNOPS visiting your State/County to conduct public consultation on an upcoming World Bank funded South Sudan Productive Safety Net for Socioeconomic Opportunities project.

In order to implement the above project, MAFS and UNOPS are developing Environment and Social safeguards instruments that require consultations in some of the selected counties. In the light of above we request support from your esteem office to enhance the consultation process. Your cooperation is highly appreciated.

Yours Sincerely,

_____
Prof: Mathew Gordon Udo
Undersecretary for Admin, Cooperative & Rural Development
Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security

Cc: Undersecretary for Agriculture and Food Security- MAFS/RSS
CC: Programme Director – MAFS

Ref: **RSS/MAFS/US/J**

Date: June 14, 2022

RE: To Commissioner of Melut

On behalf of Government of South Sudan (GoSS), the Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security (MAFS) wishes to introduce a team from UNOPS visiting your State/County to conduct public consultation on an upcoming World Bank funded South Sudan Productive Safety Net for Socioeconomic Opportunities project.

In order to implement the above project, MAFS and UNOPS are developing Environment and Social safeguards instruments that require consultations in some of the selected counties. In the light of above we request support from your esteem office to enhance the consultation process. Your cooperation is highly appreciated.

Yours Sincerely,

Prof: Mathew Gordon Udo
Undersecretary for Admin, Cooperative & Rural Development
Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security

Cc: Undersecretary for Agriculture and Food Security- MAFS/RSS
CC: Programme Director – MAFS

Republic of South Sudan
Ministry of Agriculture & Food Security
Office of the Undersecretary of Cooperative, Rural Development and Administration

Ref: ....**RSS/MAFS/US/J**..........   Date: .....June 14, 2022.....

RE: To Commissioner of Raja

On behalf of Government of South Sudan (GoSS), the Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security (MAFS) wishes to introduce a team from UNOPS visiting your State/County to conduct public consultation on an upcoming World Bank funded South Sudan Productive Safety Net for Socioeconomic Opportunities project.

In order to implement the above project, MAFS and UNOPS are developing Environment and Social safeguards instruments that require consultations in some of the selected counties. In the light of above we request support from your esteem office to enhance the consultation process. Your cooperation is highly appreciated.

Yours Sincerely,

Prof: Mathew Gordon Udo
Undersecretary for Admin, Cooperative & Rural Development
Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security

Cc: Undersecretary for Agriculture and Food Security- MAFS/RSS
CC: Programme Director – MAFS

ANNEX 8.5: SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN

No.	Proposed Action	Activities	Responsible Party	Timeline	Funding	Monitoring indicators
1.	Stakeholders Engagement	-Develop and implement stakeholder engagement Plan	MAFCS PCU and UNOPS PIU	Prior to and during project implementation	ESMF Budget	- All Stakeholders are fully engaged and consulted; - GRM functional
2.	Community Mobilisation and Capacity building	-Develop and implement CECB Plan and Tool Kit	UNOPS PIU	Prior to and during project implementation	ESMF Budget	
3.	Employment and Income Generation	-Develop and implement labour management procedures -	MAFS PCU and UNOPS PIU	During and after project implementation	ESMF Budget	-Labour management plan in place -GRM functional
4.	Beneficiary targeting, registration and payment	-Establish and communicate selection criteria with all stakeholders; - Establish project oversight structures including Registration committees - Establish and communicate GRM to all stakeholders - Use biometric registry to make payments	Community Registration Teams	After initial stakeholder engagement and community mobilisation	ESMF Budget	- No elite capture - No exclusion/ inclusion errors - GRM functional - Biometric register of beneficiaries
5.	Social inclusion: Inclusion of IPs, vulnerable and marginalised groups (women, disabled, idle youth, IDPs and refugees)	-Conduct social assessment	MAFS, UNOPS	Prior to and during project implementation	ESMF Budget	-No exclusion of IPs, vulnerable and/or marginalised groups who meet the selection criteria - GRM functional

No.	Proposed Action	Activities	Responsible Party	Timeline	Funding	Monitoring indicators
6.	Community Health and Safety	-Develop and implement ESMP -Develop/review and implement Work Norms -Develop and implement traffic management plan -Provide First Aid training for selected personnel and CSTs	UNOPS Field Team, Appeals Committees, CSTs and Group Leaders	Throughout project implementation	ESMF Budget	-ESMP and Work Norms in place -No work-related fatalities - No or few minor incidents - No spread of communicable disease - 100% provision of relevant PPE to beneficiaries -Appropriate signage in place at LIPW sites - Community Awareness of project risks - GRM functional
7.	Prevention of Child, sexual exploitation and abuse	-Develop/ review and implement GBV Action plan - Establish GBV focal points - Develop GBV awareness materials - Provide Toll -free GBV Helpline Coordinate with appropriate stakeholders on issues related to SGBV Contribute to development of GBV monitoring tools Support Risk Assessments and collection of information related SGBV Ensure protection and confidentiality of victims and witnesses of women human rights violation Orient PCU staff on Gender and Human rights Support the collection and preservation of information on cases of SGBV and other gender based human rights violations and abuses	UNOPS Field Team, GBV Focal points at the Appeals Committees, CSTs and Group Leaders	Throughout project implementation	ESMF Budget	- GBV Action Plan in place -Communities are aware risks of child labour and GBV; - Communities are aware of available reporting channels and procedures; - Available referral services are mapped -GBV focal points are trained on incident handling protocols and provided with relevant tools - GRM functional Vulnerabilities related to GBV analysed GBV tools developed SGBV incidences reports Women human rights reports PCU staff inductions/onboarding SGBV field monitoring reports

No.	Proposed Action	Activities	Responsible Party	Timeline	Funding	Monitoring indicators
		Produce SGBV IEC materials				SGBV materials produced
7.	Community Cohesion	- Conduct community consultation - encourage formation of groups - Identify community catalysts - Establish feedback mechanism	MAFS PCU, UNOPS PIU and beneficiaries	Throughout project implementation	ESMF Budget	-Reduction in intra-communal tensions and conflicts - Resolution of disputes through local structures -Increased cooperation among communities during project activities - GRM functional
8.	Local Development	Develop and implement social development action plan	MAFS PCU, UNOPS PIU and beneficiaries	During and after project implementation	LIPW budget	-Community assets are developed and accessible for all members of the community -Improved local economy due to increase in income levels of beneficiaries -Improved environmental health and hygiene in project locations
9.	Establishment of MGCSW PCU	Provide technical assistance, office equipment and furniture	MAFS Procurement	August 2022	Component 4 budget	Staff recruitment and equipment in place
10	Capacity building for the Social Protection Department	Develop the capacity building plan for the Social protection department/Unit Support National Social Protection Working Group (NSPWG) Support National Management Information System technical working group	MAFS, MGCSW	Aug 2022 - Sept 2023	Component 3 budget	Capacity Building Training Manual on Social Protection; NSPWG established; MIS functional
11	National Social Protection Policy Framework	Recruit NSPPF consultation Organise stakeholder consultations	MAFS, MGCSW	Nov 2022 - Sept. 2026	Component 3 budget	NSPPF document produced

No.	Proposed Action	Activities	Responsible Party	Timeline	Funding	Monitoring indicators
	(NSPPF) strengthened and disseminated	Review NSPPF policy Update NSPPF policy NSPPF validation Dissemination of the Social Protection Policy Framework to all stakeholders Create synergies with other World Banks funded projects (WSEEP, ECRP II) etc Develop NSPPF implementation plan				
12	National Social Protection Bill developed	Develop the National Social Protection Bill Organize advocacy meetings with parliamentarians Organize the national consultation workshop on the Social Protection Bill	MAFS, MGCSW	May - July 2023	Component 3 budget	- NSP Bill produced and presented to parliament; advocacy meetings; consultative meetings
13	Development of safety net delivery tools	Improve existing MIS, Biometric and GRM systems Improve Biometric system Enhance Community based GRM	MAFS, MGCSW, UNOPS	Oct 2022 - Dec 2023	Component 4 budget	Robust MIS, biometric and GRM systems Functional Biometric system Robust community based GRM
14	Management of the GRM	Establish a robust GRM system throughout the project sites	UNOPS	2022 – 2026	Component 1 budget	Grievances Registered
15	Government institutions systems strengthened	Organise learning/exchange visits for staff in the region Capacity building	MAFS, MGCSW	November 2022	Component 4 budget	5 staff from MGCSW acquired new skills from Tanzania and Ethiopia MGCSW and PCU trained -three for each field (18)
16	Implementing agencies recruited	Recruit UNOPS Recruit national NGO	MAFS	August 2022	Component 4 budget	UNOPS recruited NGO recruited

No.	Proposed Action	Activities	Responsible Party	Timeline	Funding	Monitoring indicators
		Recruit IP to implement component 2 Financial service provider Recruit third party monitoring agent				Implementing Partner recruited Finance service provider recruited Third party monitoring agent recruited
17	Project sites selection	Land donation, E&S screening, monitoring and mitigation measures	UNOPS	November 2022 to 2026	ESMF	Number of land donations signed, numbers of sites screened

ANNEX 8.6 FULL LIST OF THE ETHNIC GROUPS/TRIBES OF SOUTH SUDAN

	Ethnic Group	Region/ State	Language	Language Family
1.	Acholi	Eastern Equatoria	Southern Luo (Acholi dialect)	Nilotic
2.	Aja	Western Bahr el Ghazal		
3.	Anuak	Jonglei	Anuak	Nilotic
4.	Atuot	Bahr el Ghazal (Lakes State)	Reel	Nilotic
5.	Avukaya	Western Equatoria (Maridi)	Avokaya	Central Sudanic
6.	Bai	Western Bahr el Ghazal	Bai	Ubangian
7.	Baka	Western Equatoria (Maridi)	Baka	Central Sudanic
8.	Balanda Boor	Western Bahr el Ghazal (Wau), Western Equatoria (Tambura)	Belanda Bor	Nilotic
9.	Balanda Bviri	Western Bahr el Ghazal	Belanda Viri	Ubangian
10.	Banda	Western Bahr el Ghazal		Ubangian
11.	Bari	Central Equatoria (Juba)	Bari	Nilotic
12.	Binga	Western Bahr el Ghazal	Yulu	Central Sudanic
13.	Bongo	Western Bahr el Ghazal	Bongo	Central Sudanic
14.	Boya (Larim)	Eastern Equatoria	Laarim	Surmic
15.	Burun (Maban)	Upper Nile (Maban County)	Burun	Nilotic
16.	Didinga	Eastern Equatoria	Didinga	Surmic
17.	Dinka	Bahr el Ghazal, Greater Upper Nile	Dinka	Nilotic

	Ethnic Group	Region/ State	Language	Language Family
18.	Dongotono	Eastern Equatoria State	Dongotono	Nilotic
19.	Gbaya/Kerish	Western Bahr el Ghazal State	Gbaya/Kerish	Ubangian
20.	Gollo	Bahr el Ghazal		
21.	Ifoto	Eastern Equatoria	Lotuko	Nilotic
22.	Imatong	Eastern Equatoria	Lotuko	Nilotic
23.	Indri	Western Bahr el Ghazal	Indri	Ubangian
24.	Jiye	Eastern Equatoria)	Dialect of Toposa	Nilotic
25.	Jur Beli	Bahr el Ghazal		
26.	Jur Mananger	Bahr el Ghazal, Warrap (Gogrial)	Luo and Shilluk	Western Nilotic
27.	Kakwa	Central Equatoria (Yei River)	Kutuk na Kakwa (Bari)	Nilotic
28.	Kaligi (Feroghe)	Western Bahr el Ghazal	Kaligi	Ubangian
29.	Kara	Western Bahr el Ghazal	Gula	
30.	Keliko	Central Equatoria (Morobo)	Kaliko	Central Sudanic
31.	Ketebo	Eastern Equatoria State	Oketeboi and Lokathan	
32.	Kuku	Equatoria (Kajo-Keji County)	Kutuk na Kuku	Nilotic
33.	Lango	Eastern Equatoria (Imatong)	Lango	Nilotic
34.	Logir	Eastern Equatoria	Lotuko	Nilotic
35.	Lokoya	Central Equatoria (Juba(and Eastern Equatoria (Imatong)	Lokoya	Nilotic
36.	Lopit	Eastern Equatoria (Imatong)	Lopit	Nilotic
37.	Lotuko (Otuho)	Eastern Equatoria (Imatong)	Otuho	Nilotic
38.	Lugbara	central Equatoria (Morobo)	Lugbara	Nilotic

	Ethnic Group	Region/ State	Language	Language Family
39.	Lulubo	Central Equatoria (Juba(and Eastern Equatoria (Imatong)	Olu'bo	Central Sudanic
40.	Luwo (also known as Jur Chol)	Western Bahr el Ghazal (Wau and Jur River Counties), Northern Bahr el Ghazal (Aweil Center)	Jur or Luo	Nilotic
41.	Madi	Eastern Equatoria (Imatong)	Ma'di	Central Sudanic
42.	Makaraka (Adio)	Central Equatoria		
43.	Mangayat	Western Bahr el Ghazal	Mangaya	Ubangian
44.	Morokodo	Western Equatoria (Mundri)	Morokodo	Central Sudanic
45.	Moru	Western Equatoria (Mundri)	Moru	Central Sudanic
46.	Mundari	Central Equatoria (Terekeka)	Bari, Mundari	Nilotic
47.	Mundu	Western Equatoria (Maridi)	Mündü	Ubangian
48.	Murle	Jonglei, Greater Pibor Administrative Area)	Murle	Surmic
49.	Ndogo	Western Bahr el Ghazal	Ndogo	Ubangian
50.	Ngulgule	Bahr el Ghazal	Nyolge	Daju
51.	Nuer	Upper Nile, Unity, Jonglei	Nuer	Nilotic
52.	Nyangatom	Eastern Equatoria (Ilemi Triangle)	Nyangatom	Nilotic
53.	Nyangwara	central Equatoria (Rokon, Juba)	Bari	Nilotic
54.	Pari	Equatoria (Imatong State)	Päri	Nilotic
55.	Pojulu	Central Equatoria (Juba and Lainya)	Bari	Nilotic
56.	Sere	Western Bahr el Ghazal		
57.	Shilluk	Upper Nile (Fashoda)	Shilluk	Nilotic
58.	Suri (Kichepo)	Jonglei (Greater Pibor Administrative Area)	Baale	Surmic
59.	Tennet	Eastern Equatoria (Imatong)	Tennet	Surmic

	Ethnic Group	Region/ State	Language	Language Family
60.	Thuri (Shatt)	Bahr el Ghazal	Thuri	Nilotic
61.	Toposa	Eastern Equatoria (Kapoeta)	Toposa	Nilotic
62.	Uduk	Greater Upper Nile	Uduk	Koman
63.	Yulu	Western Bahr el Ghazal	Yulu	Central Sudanic
64.	Zande (Azande)	Western Equatoria	Zande	Zande

Source: Wikipedia.org

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